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Plas-Heaton.

A DESCRIPTION

O F
ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular ACCOUNT of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES, CURIOSITIES, SITUATION, FIGURE, EXTENT, CLIMATE, RIVERS, LAKES, MINERAL TERS,	SOILS, FOSSILS, CAVERNS, PLANTS and Mi- NERALS, AGRICULTURE, CIVIL and ECCLE- SIASTICAL DI- VISIONS, CITIES,	TOWNS, PALACES, SEATS, CORPORATIONS, MARKETS, FAIRS, MANUFACTURES, TRADE, SIEGES, BATTLES,
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AND THE

LIVES of the illustrious MEN each COUNTY has
produced.

Embellished with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

O F

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;

T H E

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND O F

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Besides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

V O L. IV.

L O N D O N :

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Side of St. Paul's Church-yard.

M DCC LXIX.





A
D E S C R I P T I O N
O F
E N G L A N D A N D W A L E S .

E S S E X .



HIS county received its name from its situation, to distinguish it from the country inhabited by the West and South Saxons. They called it East Deaxa, and East Dexscire, which were changed by the Normans into Exslesfa. This county, in the time of the Romans, was inhabited by the Trinobantes, whom Cæsar represents as the most warlike people in the island. Cunobeline, who was their governor soon after Cæsar's invasion, was the first who stamped the British coin after the Roman manner.

Of all the counties in England, there is none where antiquaries have taken more pains to trace out the Roman ways, but they seldom agree in their accounts. Malden and Colchester were certainly Roman towns ; but authors are not agreed upon the military way that lead to them from Lon-

don. The Roman name of Malden is Camulodunum, which was a celebrated Roman colony; Colchester had the name of Colonia; Layton was the ancient Durolitum; and Dunmow, according to Horsley, was the villa Faustini of the Romans.

This is a large and populous county, bounded on the south by the river Thames, which separates it from Kent, on the west by Hertfordshire and Middlesex; on the north by Cambridgeshire and Suffolk; and on the east by the German ocean. It is forty-seven miles in length from east to west, forty-three from north to south, and 150 in circumference; Chelmsford, which is nearly in the middle of the county, is situated twenty-eight miles north-east of London.

The air of this county is generally esteemed unhealthy, especially to strangers; yet in great part of the western and northern divisions, it is as good as in any other part of the island. Indeed many parts of it, particularly the hundreds of Rochford and Dengy, border upon the sea and the Thames, and have a rotten, oozy soil; the country is likewise full of fens and marshes, which producing noisome and pernicious vapours, subject the inhabitants to agues that are very hard to cure, and those other disorders that arise from a moist and putrid atmosphere.

It is said that the farmers, in the marshy parts of this county, drive a kind of trade in wives, by going into the inland parts to marry, and then bringing them home into the fens, where the change of air speedily puts a period to their lives: nay, it is even said, that some have boasted of their having, by this means, obtained half a score wives, with their fortunes; but this we hope is far from being true; for as the author of a modern work, intitled, *England illustrated*, very justly observes, upon this occasion, “that he who marries a wife
“ with

“ with a view to destroy her, by carrying her into
“ a fen, and the hope of enriching himself by
“ successive fortunes, is not less a murderer and a
“ robber, than he who deliberately cuts a throat,
“ that he may plunder a house ; he is indeed guilty
“ of more complicated villainy, as he perpetrates
“ it under the mask of affection ; and as it
“ can succeed only against those who are supposed
“ to have an affection for him, and whom he is
“ under the most tender, and the most solemn
“ obligations to cherish and protect.”

It is commonly observed of this county, that the soil is generally the best, where the air is worst ; for the fenny hundreds, bordering on the sea and the Thames, abound with rich pastures, and corn land ; but in many of the inland parts, the soil is chiefly gravel and sand ; however, it consists in other places of clay and loam, which produce excellent corn, and good pastures ; so that in general Essex may be called a rich plentiful county. Provisions are almost always to be had here in profusion, and there are great plenty of fat oxen and sheep, brought up to London out of the marshes, besides great quantities of corn, sent thither both by water and land carriage. There are here a great number of dairies, and the inhabitants are remarkable for their fattening of calves, whose flesh is in great esteem in London. Add to this, that the marshes feed a multitude of excellent horses.

The north-east part of the county is remarkable for producing excellent saffron, a drug of great use in medicine ; and in some of these parts, the soil is so rich, that after three crops of saffron, we are told it will yield good barley for twenty years together, without dunging, and other parts of Essex yield plenty of hops. The principal manure used in some part of this county is chalk,

which they mix with turf fresh dug, and farm-yard dung.

The rivers in this county are very numerous ; for besides the Thames, which washes its southern borders, there are the Stour, the Lea, the Stort, the Coln, the Chelmar, and the Black Water. The Stour, which rises in the north-west part of Essex, runs south-east, and separating this county from Suffolk, falls into the German ocean at Harwich. The Lea rises in the north-west part of the county, and running almost directly south, separates Essex from the counties of Hertford and Middlesex, and falls into the Thames at Blackwall. The Coln also rises in the north west part of Essex, and running south-east to Halsted, runs parallel to the Stour, and passes by Colchester, where forming an angle, it takes its course south-south-east, and falls into the German ocean. The Chelmar likewise rises in the north-west part of Essex, and passes to Chelmsford, where it forms an angle, and running directly east, receives the Blackwater, and falls into the German ocean near Malden. The Blackwater rises within two or three miles of the source of the river Chelmar, and running nearly parallel to it, passes by Braintry, and falls into the Chelmar at Malden.

The sea and rivers yield the inhabitants plenty of fish of all sorts, as soals, plaice, flounders, pike, perch, maids, lobsters, eels, and great quantities of fine oysters, of which those of Colchester sent to London in barrels are in the greatest request. Wallfleet oysters were once in high esteem, but they have not of late been brought to London in such plenty as formerly. This county also abounds with wild fowl ; and the inhabitants have decoys for ducks, which, in the winter season, are of great advantage to the owners.

There

There are several mineral waters in this county, of which one is at Upminster, eight miles east of Barking. The water is bitter, and it will curdle with oil of tartar, but more strongly with spirit of hartshorn, and will not lather with soap. A solution of allum, causes it to let fall a large grumous sediment, and the solution of copperas changes it to a dark dun colour. It appears to be a sulphureous water, of a considerable strength, and a gallon will yield 332 grains of sediment, which is of a nauseous bitter taste. It is chiefly a calcarious nitre, mixed with a little natron and sea-salt. The water is purgative and diuretic, absorbs acidities, strengthens the stomach, and checks vomiting.

Whitham water, when fresh, is perfectly clear, and has a very strong chalybeate smell and taste. It has a remarkable freshness when just taken from the spring, which renders it agreeable to the taste and stomach; but after it has stood a while, it loses that quality, and deposits a brownish sediment. A gallon, by evaporation, will yield thirty grains of sediment, which will grow damp in a moist air. However, this water is of no use unless it be drank immediately at the spring, and then it is diuretic, and is good in hectic fevers, lowness of spirits, weakness of the nerves, and want of appetite.

At Tilbury, a village seated over-against Gravesend in Kent, is a mineral water that is somewhat of a straw colour, and has a soft smooth taste. With oil of tartar it will cause no immediate precipitation, though it will curdle with soap, but not with milk. A gallon will yield 180 grains of sediment, of a yellowish brown colour, with a sharp taste, like that of a fixed alkali. A quart of this is a middling dose; it generally passes off by urine and perspiration. It warms the

blood, is good in lowness of spirits, and is a specific in loosenesses. It also cures fluxes of blood, and indeed all other fluxes; and is particularly good in an acidity of the stomach, and for some kinds of scurvies.

This county likewise affords a petrefying spring, which is at the bottom of the cliff, between Beaconhill, and the town of Harwich. This water falling on a bluish clay, will, in time, turn it into stone. It is affirmed, that it will petrefy wood as well as clay; and a large piece of wood, thus petrefied, is preserved in the repository of the Royal Society; but we are to understand no more by this, than it encrusts the wood with a kind of spar, resembling stone.

At the bottom of the above cliff there have been found, in a stratum of stone, a great variety of shells, both of the bivalve, and turbinated kinds; and, upon the shore, under the hill, is found that kind of stone, from which our copperas is prepared, and which the people call copperas-stone. In order to prepare copperas from these stones, they are mixed with earth, and disposed into light beds above ground; where, being dissolved by the rain and dew, the solution is received into trunks, that conduct it into a large leaden cistern, whence it is again conveyed into a leaden boiler; and, after boiling some time, is drawn off into coolers, where it shoots into crystals. These stones are likewise found in some places on the coast of Kent, where there are works of the same kind, for making copperas.

The more uncommon herbs in this county are jagged sea orrache, *Atriplex maritima laciniata*, found in Mersey Island, and Little Holland, on the sea-shore.

The little hare's-ear, *Auricola leporis minima*, found in the marshes near Malden.

Saffron,

Saffron, *Crocus sativus verus autumnalis*, which is much cultivated near Walden, from thence called Saffron-Walden. This curious plant rises from a bulbous root; and the usual way of propagating it is by planting the bulbs, of which every year produces a new succession, in trenches, at about five inches distance; they produce only leaves the first year; but in September or October of the following year they flower. It has narrow grass-like leaves, that have a white line running along the middle: the stalk is short and undivided, and bears on the top a purplish blue flower, deeply cut into six segments. In the middle of the flower arises, among the stamina, a whitish pistil, divided at the top into three chives or fleshy filaments, the lower part of which is slender and pale-coloured, the upper broader, of a deep orange-red, and very finely indented about the sides: the flowers being gathered in a morning before sun-rise, and the chives which are the saffron, being picked out, are dried in sieves by a gentle fire, or on a small kiln made for that purpose, and then pressed together into cakes. At the end of October, when the flowering season is over, the bulbs are taken out of the ground, and hung up in a dry place, and in spring they are put into the earth again. The produce of this plant is so great, that though the quantity of saffron yielded by a single flower is extremely small, yet an acre of ground will produce eighty or a hundred weight of wet saffron, which will weigh twenty pounds when it has been dried. The saffron produced here, is greatly superior to that brought from abroad; and may be distinguished from it by its blades being broader. It should be chosen fresh, not above a year old, in close cakes, neither dry, nor yet very moist, tough and firm in tearing, of a high, fiery colour; and of the same co-

lour within, as on the outside. Saffron is a very elegant aromatic, and is particularly serviceable in disorders of the breast, in female obstructions, and hysteric depressions.

Marsh-Thread, *Conserva palustris*, growing in the fields, and chiefly in the marshes and ditches about Malden.

Millet Cyprus-grass, *Cyperus gramineus*, by Bocking river.

Mountain oat-grass, with a single spike, and reflected auns, *Erica maritima supina*, found on Bartlow hills.

Dittander, or *Pepperwort lapideum latifolium*, growing at Hey-bridge, near Malden.

Rough-codded chikling, *Lathyrus filequâ hirsatâ*, in the fields near Hockley and Raleigh.

The musk orchis, *Monorchis*, or *orchis odorata*, growing in Black-Notley.

Star-headed water plantain, *Plantago aquatica minor stellata*, growing in a pond at Rumford.

The small leaved lime or linden-tree, frequently found in the hedges all over the county.

Sea-holley, or eringo, *Eryngium*, whose roots, the inhabitants of Colchester, are famous for candying. It grows plentifully on the sandy shore near that town. This is a blueish, branched umbelliferous plant, with mallow-like, thick, prickly leaves: the flowers are white, and set in prickly heads, under which a number of little oblong leaves stand in the form of a star: the roots are slender, very long, with a few knots, brownish on the outside, and white within; they have an agreeable sweetish taste, followed by a light, aromatic warmth and pungency. These roots are accounted aperient, diuretic, and aphrodisiac, but are seldom used, except in the form of a sweet-meat.

Almond-leaved-willow, *Salix folio Amygdalino*, found in an osier-ground near Notley.

The great rough violet, without scent, *Viola martia hirsuta*, found near Braintree.

This county lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of London. It is divided into twenty hundreds, and contains twenty-four market towns, but no city, 34,800 houses, 208,800 inhabitants, and 415 parishes. It sends eight members to parliament: two knights of the shire: two burgessees for Colchester, two for Harwich, and two for Malden.

In describing the towns of this county, we shall enter the south eastern road, and proceed northward, in that which extends to the isle of Ely in Cambridgeshire.

STRATFORD, or STRATFORD LONGTHORN, the first village in Essex next to London, is almost joined to Bow, and is in the parish of Westham. Here William of Montfichet built, in the year 1134 or 1135, an abbey for the monks of the Cistercian order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints; which being in a low situation among the marshes, the religious were obliged to remove to a cell called Burghsted near Billericay, to avoid the floods; but by the care of one of the king Richards, the damages were repaired, and the monks brought back. This abbey was endowed at the dissolution with 511 l. 16 s. a year, and was given, together with the church, to Sir Peter Meautys of Westham. Ralph de Stratford, bishop of London, in the reign of Edward the Third, obtained a licence of that prince to found and endow a college or large chantry of secular priests to be governed by a provost, within the chapel of St. Paul, in his castle here. This parish has of late years greatly increased in buildings and inhabitants, every vacancy being,
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in a manner, filled up by the addition of two small new built hamlets, if they may be thus called, on the forest side of the town; these are Maryland-point, and the gravel pits, one facing the road to Epping, and the other that to Chelmsford.

LOW LEYTON, or LEIGHTON, a village a mile and an half north of Stratford, is a straggling place, where some authors, affirm there has been a Roman station, because a large Roman urn was found in the church yard; and on the south side of a lane called Blind-lane, between this town and Stratford Bow, there are frequently dug up several of these urns of different sizes and figures. The parish church was anciently given to the abbot and convent of Stratford Langhorn; but after the suppression it was granted to Thomas Wrothley, lord chancellor of England, from whence it has passed into other hands. Near the church is an alms-house, built by John Smith, a merchant of London, for eight poor people; who endowed it with twenty pounds a year, for their maintenance.

In this parish are several handsome seats belonging to wealthy citizens, and other gentlemen, particularly Goring-house, also called the Forest-house, which is loftily situated fronting the forest. It once belonged to the abbot of Waltham, and afterwards came to the Gorings, earls of Norwich; after which it was in the possession of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, whose descendants sold it to Mr. Bosanquet. The manor house of Leighton has a fine prospect over the marsh and river, toward Hackney; and has been greatly improved with additional buildings, and handsome gardens. The beautiful seat of the late Sir Fisher Tench, Bart. is a modern structure, adorned with large and delightful gardens, with plantations, walks, groves,

groves, mounts, and canals, stocked with fish and fowl. Besides these there are several others. This parish is washed on one side by the river Lea or Lee, from which the village obtains its name, and rises in a gentle ascent for about two miles from the river to Waltham Forest, on which side lies one ward of the parish, called Leighton-stone, in a pleasant and healthy situation, where the number of inhabitants, being greatly encreased, a chapel of ease has been lately built for their convenience. The parish church is a small building, consisting of a chancel and two isles, and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

In this parish was born Sir Thomas Roe, or Rowe, a very able statesman, and ambassador to several foreign courts. In 1593, he was admitted into Magdalen college in Oxford; but before he had finished his studies, he was taken from the university: and, after some time spent in one of the inns of court, or in France, or both, he became esquire of the body to queen Elizabeth, about the latter end of her reign. In 1604, he received the honour of knighthood from king James the First; and, soon after, was sent, by Henry prince of Wales, to make discoveries in America, where he sailed up the great river of the Amazons above three hundred miles. He afterwards acted as ambassador to the Great Mogul, as also at several courts in Europe; upon his return from which, he was appointed by king Charles the First, chancellor of the garter, and a member of the privy council. He died November 6, 1644, and was privately buried in Woodford church in Essex. During his residence in the east, he made a large collection of valuable manuscripts, in the Greek and Oriental languages, which he presented to the Bodleian library. He likewise kept a journal of all his embassies and
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negociations, several extracts from which are to be found in Purchas's Pilgrim, and Churchill's voyages. A volume of them was printed in 1740, but the greater part still remains unpublished.

WALTHAMSTOW, is a village contiguous to Low-Leyton, and situated on the river Lea. Here are three manors, Highhall, or Walthamstow Tony, Lowhall, or Walthamstow Francis, which was the manor of the late J. Coniers, Esq; and the manor of the rectory, which once belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, otherwise called Christ-church, near Aldgate, London. The church of Walthamstow, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is a large edifice, situated upon a hill, and consists of three isles; that on the north side, built by Sir George Monnox, knight, lord mayor of London, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, is called Monnox's isle; that on the south side, bears the name of Thorne's isle, from a citizen and merchant-taylor of London, of that name, who was probably at the expence of building it. In this church are a considerable number of monuments, particularly a piece of marble over the body of Dr. Pierce, bishop of Bath and Wells; and a monument, erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Stanley, knight, second son to the earl of Derby. Here also Sir George Monnox, about the year 1515, built an hospital for thirteen poor people. In this parish are several ancient seats and handsome houses, belonging to persons of distinction, the most remarkable of which was that of Higham-hall, pleasantly situated upon Higham-hill, a rising ground, about half a mile north of Clay-street, just above the river Lea, affording a fine view of the counties of Hertfordshire and Middlesex. It has been a magnificent and spacious structure; and formerly, when the lords resided upon their royalties,

alties, no place could be more admirably situated than this mansion, which afforded a delightful and extensive prospect of the whole extent of its jurisdiction. But hardly any traces of its ancient grandeur are now remaining.

WANSTED is a village at a small distance from Walthamstow, on the east side of the road. In this place, and its neighbourhood, are several fine seats of the nobility, gentry, and wealthy citizens; but their lustre is greatly eclipsed by Wanstead-house, which, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was the seat of Robert, earl of Leicester, but is now the magnificent seat of the earl Tilney. Preparations were made for this noble seat by Sir Josiah Child, his lordship's grandfather, who added, to the advantage of a fine situation, a multitude of avenues and vistas leading up to the spot where the old house stood. The late lord, before he was ennobled, laid out the most spacious gardens that are to be seen in this part of England. The green-house is a superb building, furnished with stoves, and artificial places for heat, from an apartment which has a bagnio and other conveniences, both for use and pleasure. The house was built by the late earl of Tilney, and designed by colonel Campbell, and is one of the noblest structures, not only near London, but in the kingdom. It was built since these gardens were finished, and is a magnificent edifice, 260 feet in length, and seventy in depth, fronted with Portland-stone. It consists of two stories, the state and ground-story. This latter is the basement, into which you enter by a door in the middle, underneath the grand entrance, which is a noble portico of six Corinthian columns, supporting a pediment, in which are the lord Tilney's arms. To this you ascend by a flight of steps, on each side, and pass into a magnificent hall, fifty-three feet long
by

by forty-five feet broad, richly adorned with painting and sculpture; particularly two antique statues on marble pedestals, Livia and Domitian: from thence you pass into the other state-rooms, which are suitably furnished with pictures, gilding, velvet, and other rich hangings. Before the house, which has no wings, is an octangular basin, which seems equal to the length of the front. On each side, as you approach the house, are two marble statues of Hercules and Venus, with obelisks and vases placed alternately. The garden front has no portico, but a pediment with a bas-relief, supported by six three-quarter columns. From the fore-front of this noble structure extends a vista, that reaches to the great road at Leighton-stone; and from the back-front, facing the garden, is an easy descent, that leads to the terrace, and affords a most beautiful prospect of the river Roding, which is formed into canals; and beyond it, the walks and wildernesses extend to a great distance, rising up the hill; so that the sight is lost in the woods, and the whole country, as far as the eye can reach, appears one continued garden.

The parish church of this village has been lately rebuilt, chiefly by the liberality of the lord viscount Castlemain; and in the chancel is a superb monument for Sir Josiah Child, whose statue, in white marble, stands pointing downward to the inscription. Underneath lies the figure of Bernard, his second son; and on each side sits a woman veiled, one leaning her head upon her hand, and the other wringing her hands. There are also several boys in mournful postures, and one expressing the vanity of life, by blowing up a bubble.

WALTHAM-ABBEY is situated twelve miles from London, a little to the east of the road on the east side of the river Lea, which, here dividing, encloses some islands, with fine meadows,
and

and parts this village from Waltham-crofs in Middlefex. Here Harold, fon to earl Godwin, to whom Edward the Confessor gave the town, in the year 1062, founded a monaftery for a dean and eleven fecular canons ; and endowed it with this manor and fix others ; but they were in 1177, changed by king Henry II. into an abbot, and regulars of the order of St. Auftin, and their number encreafed to twenty-four. It was built in honour of the holy crofs, and from this abbey the town took its name. Its abbots were mitred, and had the twentieth place in parliament ; they lived in a moft fplendid, but hofpitable manner, and were frequently vifited by Henry the Third, when he was reduced, and obliged to carry his family about for a dinner. This abbey was valued at the diffolution at 900 l. a year by Dugdale ; but at 1079 l. by Speed. It was given by king Hen. VIII. to Sir Anthony Denny, his groom of the ftole, whose grandfon afterwards employing workmen to convert it into a feat for himfelf, they are faid to have dug up the corpf of Harold, which, after his being flain in battle againft William the Conqueror, was interred in the abbey. The town has a market on Tuefdays, and two fairs ; namely, on May 14, and September 25 and 26, for horfes, hogs, and cows.

EPPING, the next place worthy of notice on this road, is feated on the fide of a foreft, from this town, called Epping-Foreft, which, on account of its great extent, was anciently termed the Foreft of Effex. The markets, which are kept on Thursdays for cattle, and on Fridays for provifions, are kept in Epping-ftreet, about a mile and a half from the church. This is a fmall delightful place, and has two fairs, held on Whifon-Tuefday, and October 13, for horfes, cows, and fheep. This town is remarkable for fending
the

the most excellent fresh butter to London. There are several fine seats in Epping-Forest, which is a royal-chace.

HARLOW is situated seven miles to the north of Epping, and anciently belonged to the abbot and monks of St. Edmonsbury in Suffolk. At the time of the dissolution of religious houses, the manor and rectory came to the crown, but has since passed into other hands. It had formerly a market, which is now disused, but has still three fairs; namely, on Whitson-Monday, the 9th of September, and the 28th of November, for horses and horned cattle.

HATFIELD received its name from the Saxon word *hat*, which signifies hot, probably from its standing on a hot, sandy soil, and is also called Hatfield Broadoak, from a spreading oak that grew in it; and King's Hatfield, from its being held by knights service of the king; a second name being necessary to distinguish it from the other towns named Hatfield. This town had formerly a priory for black Monks of the Benedictine order, founded by Alberic de Vere, the first earl of Oxford, and great chamberlain of England, who endowed it with all the tithes of his own demesnes in this town. At the dissolution, the revenues of this priory were valued at 122*l.* a year by Dugdale; but at 157*l.* by Speed. This town is now but a small place, tho' it has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 5th of August, for lambs.

About seven miles north of Hatfield Broadoak, is STANSTEAD, or STEINSTEAD MONTFITCHET; so called, as some suppose, from its being seated on gravelly soil; but more probably because it is seated on a Roman road. Montfitchet was added thereto, because there was an ancient seat or castle, raised upon a little artificial mount, called Montfixus,

fixus, which signifies a mount raised on firm ground. This was erected by one Gilbert, and hence he was called Gilbert de Montefixo. Some relicks of this castle are still remaining about a quarter of a mile from the church. There is one fair kept here on the 12th of May, for horses and cattle.

NEWPORT is a pretty little place, eight miles north of Stanstead, and three miles south of Walden. It is seated on the river Grant, which runs into Cambridgeshire, and has two fairs, one on Easter-Monday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horses.

WALDEN, anciently called Waleduna, then Waldenburgh, afterwards Chipping-Walden, and now Saffron-Walden, from the neighbouring fields, in which Saffron is cultivated, is seated near the borders of Cambridgeshire, about 20 miles to the north of Hatfield Broadoak, twenty-seven north-north-west of Chelmsford, and forty-two north by east of London. It was incorporated by king Edward the Sixth, and is a large, well built town, governed by a mayor, and twenty-four aldermen; out of whom are annually chosen a treasurer or chief officer, and two chamberlains, his assistants. Here is a good church, an alms-house, well endowed, and a free-school on a royal foundation. It has a market on Saturdays, well supplied with all sorts of provisions; and two fairs, namely, on Midlent-Saturday, for horses, and the other on the first of November, for cows.

A priory of Benedictine monks was founded in this town, in 1136, by Jeffry Mandevil, the first earl of Essex, after the conquest; and dedicated to St. Mary and St. James. In the reign of king Richard the First it became an abbey, and was
valued

valued at the dissolution, at 372 l. 18 s. a year by Dugdale; but at 406 l. by Speed.

At AUDLEY-END, about a mile south of this town, is a seat belonging to the earl of Suffolk, built out of the ruins of the above abbey, by Thomas Lord Audley, who was created earl of Suffolk, by king James the First, to whom he was treasurer. The earl intended it as a palace for his majesty, and had no sooner finished it, than he made him a present of it; but the king, on seeing its vast extent and magnificence, said, it would suit very well a lord treasurer, but was too much for a king. It therefore remained in the possession of the earls of Suffolk during that, and the succeeding reign, but was afterwards purchased by king Charles the Second, who not being able to pay for it, mortgaged the hearth-tax to the earl of Suffolk, as a security for the money. This tax being taken off, soon after the revolution, and the state not being in a condition to pay the sum for which it had been pledged, the house became again in the possession of the family. It was at that time the largest royal palace in the kingdom; but soon after, Henry earl of Suffolk pulled down a great part of it, and left only one court standing, which is, however, still worthy of the name of a palace.

Sir Thomas Smith, a learned writer, and secretary of state to king Edward the Sixth, and queen Elizabeth, was born at Saffron-Walden, on March 28, 1512. He had his education in the university of Cambridge, where, after being chosen fellow of his college, he was appointed to read the public Greek lecture, and, in conjunction with Sir John Cheke, introduced a new way of pronouncing that language. In 1536, he was elected university orator, which place he filled with great applause. About three years after he
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set out on his travels, and studied for some time in the universities of France and Italy. Returning home in 1542, he was appointed regius professor of civil law at Cambridge, where he wrote an Essay concerning the correct writing of the English tongue, and the true sounding of the words and letters. Upon the accession of king Edward the Sixth, he was taken into the family of the duke of Somerset, uncle and governor to that prince, who appointed Dr. Smith master of requests, provost of Eaton-college, steward of the stanneries, and dean of Carlisle. In 1548, he was constituted secretary of state, and advanced to the honour of knighthood. In the reign of queen Mary he was stripped of all his employments; but, upon the accession of queen Elizabeth, he was again called to court, and employed in settling the affairs of the nation. In 1561, he was sent ambassador to France, where he resided some years, and where, it is generally thought, he finished his treatise of *The commonwealth of England*. He afterwards obtained a large grant of lands, known by the name of the *Ardes*, in the province of Ulster in Ireland, where he planted a colony; and he was likewise concerned in a whimsical project of transmuting iron into copper, which put him to a great deal of expence. He died, however, in very good circumstances, August the 12th, 1577, in the 63d year of his age. Besides the works above-mentioned, he wrote four orations concerning the queen's marriage, and several other tracts.

CHESTERFORD-MAGNA is a village four miles north-west of Walden, and borders upon Cambridgeshire. Some years ago were discovered here the ruins of a Roman city. The foundations of the walls take in a compass of about fifty acres; and there are still visible the foundations of
a Ro-

a Roman temple, and a vessel of stone adorned with sculpture. It was lying neglected in the mill at Chesterford, and is hollow. Mr. Horsley imagines it to be sepulchral, and that it has contained three urns, answerable to the three busts on the outside; but as it never had any inscription, it is impossible to know who the deceased persons were. This village has one fair, on July 5, for horses.

Four miles north-east of Walden is ASHDON, or ASHTON; near which there are four great barrows, or pyramidal hills, commonly called Bartlow hills, because they are near that village, though they are really in Ashdon parish. The last battle between Edmund Ironside, and Canute the Dane, before the division of the kingdom, was fought near these hills; when Canute came off conqueror, and in memory of this victory, caused these hills to be thrown up, and made them monuments for such as were slain in battle. As a proof of this, when two of them were searched into, there were found three stone coffins, with abundance of pieces of bones in them, and many iron chains, like the bits of horses bridles.

We shall now return to Saffron-Walden, and proceed from thence in the road, which extends south-east to THACKSTEAD, or THAXTED, which was anciently called Tachsteda, and sometimes Tasted. It is seated on the river Chelmer, seven miles south-east of Walden, seventeen miles north by west of Chelmsford, and forty-two north-north-east of London. It is three quarters of a mile in length, and has a regular and stately church. It was incorporated by Philip and Mary; and the corporation consists of a mayor, who is of the quorum within the liberty and borough; a recorder, three bailiffs, and about twenty chief burghesses. They have a common seal, but no arms.

The

The town has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, one on the 27th of May, and the other on the 10th of August, for horses.

Samuel Purchas, a learned English divine, in the seventeenth century, and compiler of the valuable collection of voyages, which bears his name, was born here in the year 1577. After finishing his studies at Cambridge, he was instituted in 1604, to the vicarage of East-wood, in his native county; but leaving that cure, he removed to London, where he published the first volume of his voyages in 1613, and the other four in 1625. About the year 1614, he was collated to the rectory of St. Martin's, Ludgate, in London; and was likewise appointed chaplain to George Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury. Besides his voyages, he published a book, intituled, *Purchas his Pilgrim*, and another, called *The History of Man*. He died about the year 1628.

Seven miles south of Thackstead is DUNMOW, also called DUNMOW MAGNA, or GREAT DUNMOW, to distinguish it from a village in its neighbourhood, known by the name of Dunmow Parva, or Little Dunmow. The name of Dunmow, is supposed to have been formed of two British words, Dunum, a gravelly hill, and Magus, a town, which answers exactly to its situation on the top of a pretty steep, gravelly hill, that renders the town extremely pleasant. This was the Villa Faustini of the Romans, as a proof of which the old Roman way is very direct, and called by the inhabitants the Street. Its remains are still visible in several places; and besides, we find in an old perambulation of the forest in king John's time, that it was said to be bounded on the north by the Street, leading from Dunmow to Colchester. The church stands near a mile from the town, which is governed by twelve headboroughs, and two bailiffs

liffs or chief officers, chosen out of them yearly. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, on May 6, and November 8, for cattle.

At Dunmow Parva, about two miles south-east of the former, is a priory of canons regular of the Augustine order, which was thus founded; Juga Baynard, widow of Ralph Baynard, lord of this town, founded a church here dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and designed it for nuns; but Geoffrey Baynard, son and heir of the said Juga, in the year 1106, with the consent of Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, placed canons there, and became their patron. In this priory a custom was instituted by Robert, earl of Clare, or some of his successors, that he that does not repent of his marriage, either sleeping or waking, in a year and a day, nor has had any difference with his wife, nor has made any nuptial transgression within that time, and will take his oath of the same, before the prior or convent, and the whole town, shall have a gammon of bacon delivered to him with great solemnity. There are two or three upon record, who have received this bacon, and it is said the custom still goes along with the manor, and that some have lately received it. This priory was valued, at the dissolution, at 150*l.* a year, by Dugdale; but at 173*l.* by Speed.

To the south of this town are several villages of the name of Roding, which take their name from the river that passes near them: some say there are nine, which may be true, though they form but eight distinct parishes, and they have each a name added to Roding, to distinguish them from each other.

John Thurloe, secretary of state to the protector, Oliver Cromwell, was the son of the reverend Mr. Thomas Thurloe, rector of Abbots Roding; and was born at that place in the year

1616. Being bred to the law, which he studied with great diligence, he soon became eminent in that honourable profession; and was appointed one of the secretaries to the parliamentary commissioners, at the treaty of Uxbridge, in 1645. In 1647 he was admitted of Lincoln's-inn; and in the course of the same year, obtained the post of receiver, or clerk of the curfitor's fines; a place worth about 350 l. per annum. In 1652 he was constituted secretary to the council of state; and, upon Oliver Cromwell's assuming the protectorship, he was named secretary of state under that usurper. He served Oliver and his son with great fidelity; and defeated several designs that were formed against the life of the former. He concurred, however, in the restoration; and though strictly examined by the parliament, and even accused of high treason, no criminal charge could be made out against him. He was often invited by Charles the Second, to engage again in the administration of public affairs; but this offer, however strongly urged, he always declined, though with many expressions of gratitude. The remaining part of his life he spent at Great Milton in Oxfordshire. Dying suddenly, February 21, 1678, at his chambers in Lincoln's-inn, he was interred under the chapel there, with a very modest inscription. His *State Papers*, which were afterwards published, are well known.

Eighteen miles south-west of Dunmow, and twelve miles west of Chelmsford, is CHIPPING-ONGAR, so called from the Saxon word *Cepan*, which signifies to buy and sell, it being a very ancient market-town. Here Richard Lucy, who was protector of England, while king Henry the Second was in Normandy, erected a castle upon an artificial mount of great height, and surrounded it with a large mote and other fortifications,

the greatest part of which is still to be seen. It was much decayed in the reign of queen Elizabeth, on which account James Morrice, lord of the manor, pulled it down, and erected a handsome strong brick building in its room ; which, on account of its lofty situation and pleasant walks, became one of the finest seats in the county. The town has two charity-schools, one for twenty-six boys, and the other for twelve girls. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 30th of September, for small ware.

About three miles to the north-east of Chipping-Ongar, is the village of NORTON MANDEVILLE, where the church has only the revenue of 6l. a year, and the duty is performed but once a month. This church, by being thus deserted, is so full of damp, that it endangers the lives of the congregation, which indeed seldom exceed six or seven, besides the minister and clerk.

From Chipping-Ongar the road runs thirteen miles southward to RUMFORD, a noted town on the road from London to Chelmsford, from which it is twelve miles distant. It is governed by a bailiff and wardens, who, though they are not a corporation, yet, by an ancient patent, have a power to keep a court every week, in which the inhabitants, sojourners and traders in the markets, may, on every Thursday, implead the guilty of treasons, felonies, debts, and actions of trespass, before the bailiff and wardens, who have authority to hear, determine, and execute the laws upon offenders, according to their deserts. However, we do not find that this is ever done, especially in capital cases. It has two markets, that on Tuesdays is for hogs, calves, and other cattle ; and that on Wednesdays for corn ; and it has a fair on June 24, for horned cattle.

Near

Near this town is a famous structure called Giddy-hall, which is a great square building, erected by Sir Thomas Cooke, formerly lord mayor of London.

The village of HORNBURCH is two miles south-east of Rumford, and has a very large parish, containing seven wards. According to tradition, it was anciently called Whorechurch, from its being built by a lewd woman, by way of atonement for her sins; but a certain king disliking the name, caused a large pair of leaden horns to be fastened to the east-end of the church, from which it obtained its present name.

Having thus visited the western part of the county, we shall take the southern road, and proceed eastward from Stratford to BARKING, the nearest market town in this county to London, from which it is only ten miles distant. It is so called from a stream of the same name, on which it is situated, near a creek, where the Barking falls into the river Roding, about two miles before its confluence with the Thames. The town is of considerable extent, and chiefly inhabited by fishermen, whose boats, called smacks, lie at the mouth of the river in the Thames, from whence their fish is sent up in boats to Billingsgate. The parish has been so much enlarged by lands recovered from the Thames, and the river Roding, that the small tythes are computed at above 600 l. a year. It has a church, and two chapels of ease; one at Ilford, and the other on the side of Epping-Forest. In this town was anciently a Benedictine nunnery, said to be the oldest and richest in England. It was founded by Erkenwald, son of Offa, king of the East-Angles, about the year 675, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburgha; the first abbess was sister to the founder. In the year 870 the Danes destroyed

this monastery with many others ; but it was afterwards rebuilt, and at the dissolution was valued at 862 l. a year, by Dugdale, and at 1048 l. by Speed. Adelicia, an abbess of this convent, about the year 1190, founded here, upon the road to London, an hospital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for the leprous tenants or servants of the convent, which consisted of two masters, thirteen brethren lepers, two chaplains, and a clerk. This hospital was valued, at the dissolution, at 16 l. 13 s. clear, per annum. Barking has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 22d of October, for horses.

About four miles to the east of Barking, is the village of DAGENHAM, near which, about fifty years ago, the river Thames broke in, and laid near 5000 acres of land under water, at a place called Dagenham-Breach ; but after ten years inundation, and some fruitless attempts to drain the land, and reduce the water to its former channel, it was happily effected by captain Perry, who had been employed several years by Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, in his works at Veronitza, on the river Don.

Twelve miles south-east of Dagenham is GRAYS, by some called GRAYS THURROCK, a village seated on the river Thames, which has one fair on the 23d of May, for cattle and hardware.

Four miles to the south-east is WEST TILBURY, where there is a fort close to the river Thames, opposite to the Blockhouse at Gravesend in Kent. This is a regular fortification planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to king Charles the Second, and kept constantly garrisoned. The esplanade is very large, and the bastions, which are faced with brick, are the largest in England. It has two moats or ditches, one within the other ; the innermost is 110 feet broad : it has likewise
a good

a good counterescarp, and covered way, marked out with ravelins and tenailles, with a noble gate, called the Watergate, in the middle. Before the curtain is a platform, on which are mounted above 100 guns, from twenty-four to forty-six pounders, besides smaller pieces, which are planted between those mounted on the bastions and curtain.

At EAST TILBURY, which is a little town on the bank of the Thames, at a small distance from West Tilbury, is a chalky cliff, in which are several spacious caverns, about twelve feet in height, and growing narrower to the top. These are well lined with stone.

From hence a road extends twelve miles northward to BILLERICAY, a small town, that has a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, the first on the 22d of July, for horses; and the other on the 7th of October, for cattle in general. This road is a disgrace to the county: it being so narrow, that two carriages cannot pass by each other; the ruts are of an incredible depth, and it is almost every where overgrown with trees, so as to be impervious to the sun.

Near Horndon, on the above road, is a very high hill, from the summit of which the most astonishing prospect breaks almost at once upon one of the dark lanes. Such a prodigious valley, every where painted with the finest verdure, and intersected with numberless hedges and woods, appears beneath you, that it is past description; the Thames winding through, full of ships, and bounded by the hills of Kent. Nothing, says an ingenious author, can exceed this amazing prospect, unless it be that which Hannibal exhibited to his disconsolate troops, when he had them behold the glories of the Italian plains.

Returning back towards Tilbury, we shall proceed along the road, which runs north-west, and passes by CANVY Island, which is encompassed by the Thames, and is about five miles in length, it lies low, and is sometimes overflowed by the tide. Upon it is held a fair on the 25th of June, for toys.

The road now passes by LEIGH, a town seated by the Thames, five miles south by east of Raleigh. It is much frequented by hoys, and other small craft, and is likewise a road for ships. It has a fair on the second Tuesday in May, for toys.

About two miles south-east of Leigh is PRIT-TLEWELL. This village was formerly famous for a priory founded by Robert de Essex, called Robert Fitz-Swale, because he was the son of Swenus of Essex. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was for Cluniac monks. He endowed it with the tithes of several parishes, and the prior was to pay yearly, on the feast of St. Pancras, to the prior of Lewes abbey, a mark of silver as an acknowledgment. It was valued, at the dissolution, at 155 l. a year, by Dugdale, but by Speed, at 194 l. This village has a fair on the 15th of July, for toys.

From hence the road leads to FOULNESS, an island in the south-east part of the county. It was formerly subject to frequent inundations, but has of late been drained in the manner performed by the Dutch; and the land now produces corn and pasture; however, notwithstanding all the care that has been taken, the sea, at very high tides, will sometimes break in, and drown many of the cattle. The passage into it is at low water, and on horseback, insomuch that many, either by negligence or being in liquor, have been overtaken by the tide, and drowned. A fair is held upon this island on the 10th of July, for toys.

toys. Near it are several other small islands, which are not worth mentioning.

We shall now turn back to the westward, taking the road which lies a little to the north of that, by which we have crossed the most southern part of the county. The first town we come to is **ROCHFORD**, which is four miles east of Raleigh, and forty east by south of London. It is seated on a small stream that falls into a river called the Crouch, in an unhealthful situation. It has an alms-house, founded and endowed by lord Rich : to the statutes of this alms-house, six other houses are subject, built by the earl of Warwick, for five men, and one woman, who receive each of them three shillings and six-pence a week, a gown at Christmas, of the value of a guinea, and two loads of wood every year, out of the earl's woods. Rochford has a market on Thursdays, and two fairs, namely, on Easter-Tuesday, for toys, and the Wednesday after ; the 29th of September, for wholesale taylors, glovers and toys.

Near this town is an eminence called **KINGS-HILL**, where the lord of the honour of Raleigh holds a court, on the Wednesday morning after Michaelmas, at cock-crowing. This is called **Lawless-Court** ; the steward and suitors are obliged to whisper to each other, and are not allowed either fire or candle ; a piece of coal supplies the place of pen and ink ; and he who owes service to the court, and does not attend, forfeits double his rent for every hour. Camden observes, that this attendance was imposed on the tenants as a punishment for their having met, at that unseasonable time, in a conspiracy against their lord.

Eleven miles north-east of Rochford is **BURNHAM**, which is situated on the river Crouch, five miles west of the sea. This is a place of some trade, it sending several small vessels with commodities

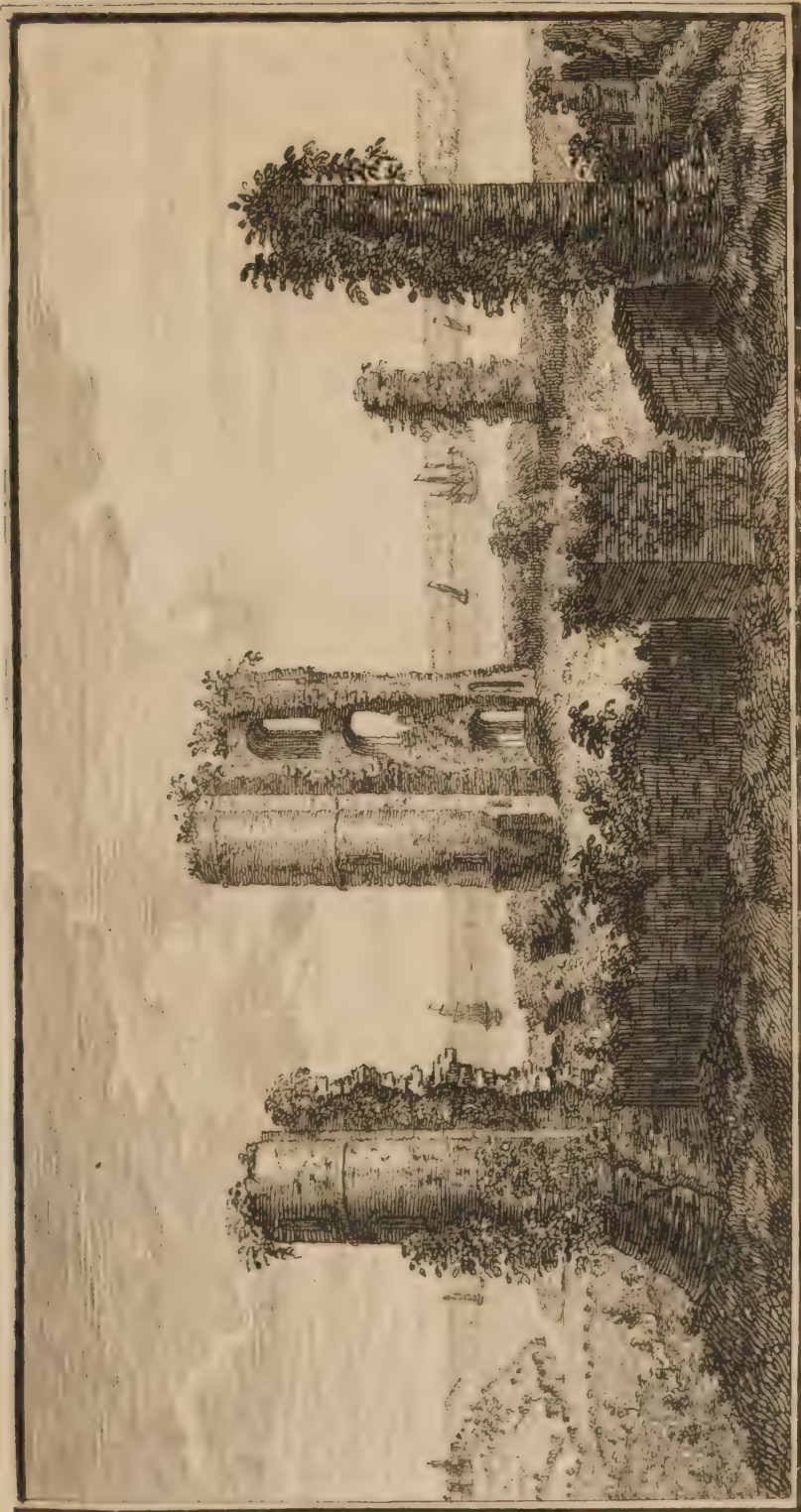
to London. It has two fairs, viz. on April 25, and September 4, for toys.

RALEIGH, or RAYLEIGH, is an ancient but small town, about seven miles west of Rochford, thirteen miles south-south-east of Chelmsford, and thirty-six east by south of London. It has a court-leet and court-baron, with many other privileges, but is greatly decayed, and a number of the buildings are gone to ruin; it has, however, one broad handsome street, and a market on Saturdays, with a fair on Trinity-Monday, for horses and toys. Swanus, earl of Essex, built a castle here for his own residence, but it has been long since demolished.

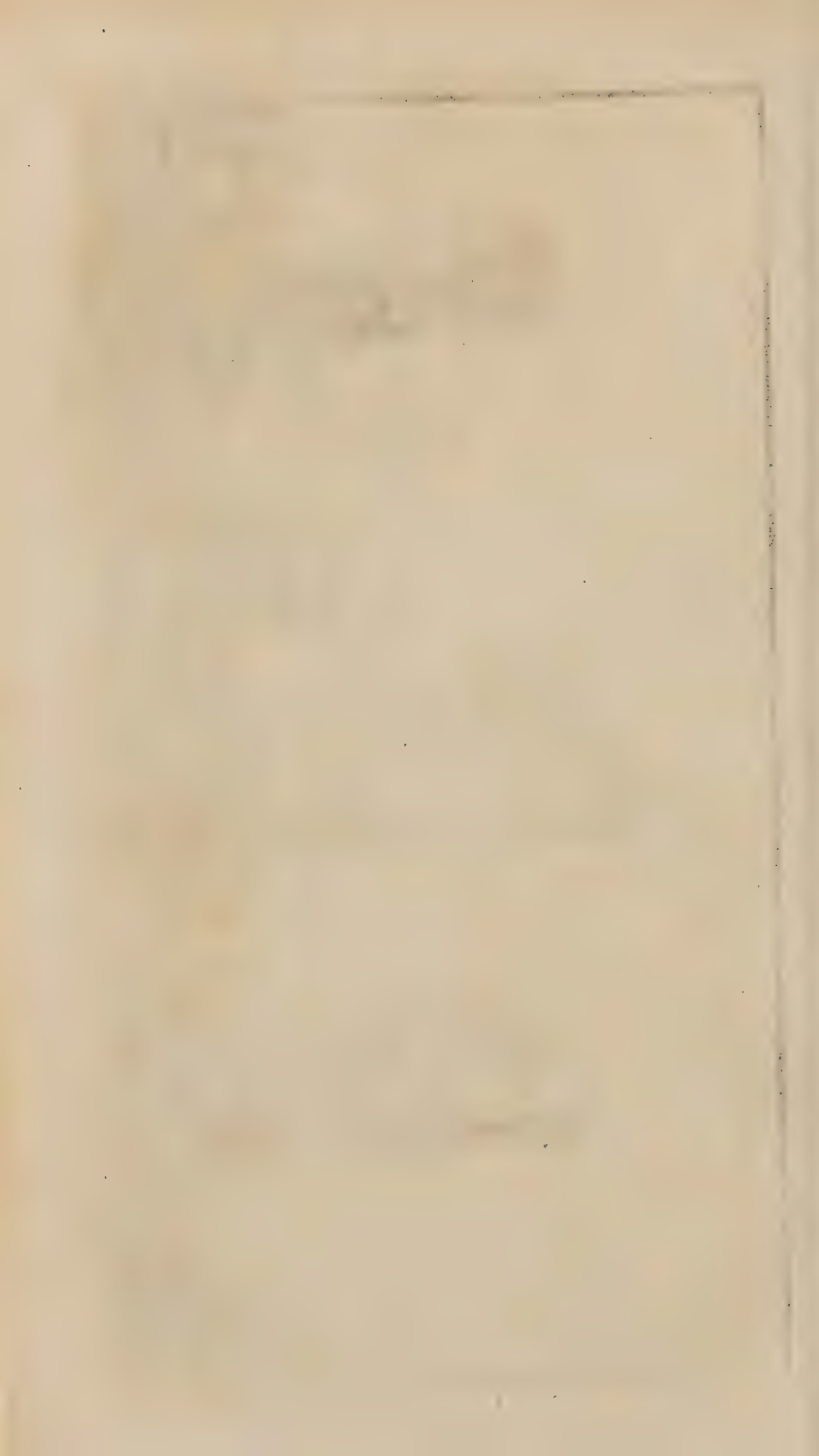
HADLEIGH is a village two miles south of Raleigh, where was a castle built by Hubert de Burgh, in the reign of king Henry the Third. In process of time it came to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who is said to have been secretly smothered at Calais with pillows, in the year 1397. Afterwards it came to Edmund of Langley, earl of Cambridge, and duke of York, brother to the above Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester. The present possessor is Sir Francis St. John, Bart. It is now demolished, except three or four lofty ruins, which shew it was formerly a magnificent structure, and of which we have given a particular view for the satisfaction of the curious reader. In this village a fair is held on the 24th of June, for toys.

From Raleigh one road extends northward to Chelmsford, and another westward through Bille-ricay, which is only a chapelry to a parish called Great Bursted, and has nothing worthy of notice; and from thence it enters the London road to Harwich, a little to the north of Brentwood.

BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD, is ten miles west of Raleigh, and eighteen north-east of London.



The North View of Hadleigh Castle, in the County of Essex.



don. It is only a hamlet, or division of a parish, called Southwold Cum Brent, but has good inns, and is a populous place. The county assizes have been often held here, and horse-races are frequently held on a neighbouring plain, called Parslow Wood common. It has a market on Thursdays, and a fair on the 18th of July, for horses and horned cattle.

INGOTSTONE, which lies five miles north-east of Brentwood, in the road from London to Harwich, is little better than a village; it has however, an alms-house for twenty poor people, with a chaplain to read service to them every day, founded in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, by Sir William Petre, and a church, in which Sir William lies interred under a stately monument. A fair is held here on the first of November, for horned cattle.

CHELMSFORD, the Cesaromagus of Antoninus, obtained its name from its situation in a fine plain on the river Chelmer, near its confluence with a small stream called the Cann, twenty-two miles south-west of Colchester, and twenty-eight north-east of London. It has a bridge over the Chelmer, at which river there was probably only a ford. It is a pretty large, neat and populous town, standing almost in the centre of the county, and is a great thoroughfare in the London road to Norwich, Yarmouth, and other places in Norfolk, as well as to Harwich and Ipswich. It is not, indeed, the largest town in the county, but, from its situation, is the most frequented for public business; for which reason it is generally chosen for the general quarter sessions, and county courts; the meetings of the commissioners of the land and window taxes, and the elections for knights of the shire. Chelmsford has one church, which seems to have been built almost

400 years ago ; for on the outside of the south wall is the following inscription, “ Pray for the “ good estate of the township of Chelmsford, “ that hath been willing and prompt of helpys “ to build this church, MCCCCLXXXIX.” It has also a famous free-school, founded and endowed by Edward the Sixth, as also a charity-school by subscription, for forty-five boys, and twenty-five girls. The chief support of this town is from the business of the county, and the numerous carriages and droves of cattle, with the vast quantities of provisions and manufactures, that are constantly going thro’ it to London. It has a good market on Fridays, and two fairs ; one held on the 12th of May, and the other on the 12th of November, both for cattle.

Sir Walter Mildmay, chancellor and under-treasurer of the Exchequer, and founder of Emmanuel college in Cambridge, in the sixteenth century, was born at Chelmsford ; but in what year is uncertain. In the reign of king Henry the Eighth, he was surveyor of the court of augmentation ; and two days after the coronation of king Edward the Sixth, he was created one of the knights of the carpet. As he was zealously attached to the protestant religion, he interfered very little in public affairs during the reign of queen Mary ; but upon the accession of queen Elizabeth, he again began to act in a public capacity. In 1566, he was appointed chancellor and under-treasurer of the Exchequer, and continued to enjoy these lucrative posts till the day of his death, which happened May 31, 1589. In 1584, he founded Emmanuel college in Cambridge. It contained at first a master, three fellows, and four scholars ; but at present it contains a master, fourteen fellows, and fifty scholars.

DANBURY is a village four miles east-south-east of Chelmsford, and is seated upon a pretty high hill, at the top of which is a church, with so high a spire, that it is used as a sea-mark. In this church there were three chantries founded by the Darcys, which at the dissolution were restored to the same family. There is one fair kept here one Shrove-Tuesday, for toys.

Eight miles north of Chelmsford is **LEEZ**, or **LEIGHS**, a village, where a priory was founded by Sir Ralph Gernoun, in the reign of Henry the Third, for friars of the Augustin order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John. In 1309 Ralph de Baldock, bishop of London, visited this priory, and made several injunctions to be observed by the prior and convent. It was valued, at the dissolution, at 114l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 141l. by Speed. It is at present in the possession of Charles Sheffield, Esq; the old gatehouse is a very regular structure, and the whole is now converted into a very handsome country seat.

On the south side of the road from Chelmsford to Colchester is **HATFIELD PEVERIL**, a village eight miles east by north of Chelmsford, which has a fair on Whitsun-Tuesday, for toys.

Eight miles north-east of Chelmsford is **WIT-HAM**, a pleasant town, neatly built: it has several very handsome inns, and in the neighbourhood are many elegant seats. A considerable number of people resort hither in summer to drink the water of the Spaw, and the neighbouring gentry have assemblies in the town once a month. There is here a market on Saturdays, with two fairs, one on the Monday before Whitsunday, and the other on the 14th of September, for toys.

Five miles to the south of Witham is **MALDEN**, or **MALDON**, the ancient *Camelodunum*,
a city

a city of the Romans, as appears from some coins of king Cunobeline dug up here. This was the first Roman colony in Britain, the town was taken by the emperor Claudius in the year 43, who placing a stout band of veterans in it, called it Colonia Victricentis: he likewise coined money in memory of this exploit, on which was inscribed COL. CAMALODUN. The Romans also erected here a temple to the honour of Claudius, in which was an altar, called the altar of Eternal Dominion; and certain priests, termed Sodales Augustales, were appointed to attend it; but the cruelty and oppression of the Roman soldiers of this station so exasperated the Britons, and in particular Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, who personally receiving the grossest and most disgraceful insults, she collected a numerous army, and besieged, plundered and burnt this city. She afterwards stormed the temple, where the soldiers were got together to defend themselves; and in two days time she put them all to the sword. She likewise routed the ninth legion, that came to their assistance; inso-much, that in the whole she killed 70000 Romans and their allies. The Romans rebuilt it sometime after, as appears from the Itinerary of Antoninus, who takes notice of it as being a Roman station. After this king Alfred, sometimes called Edward the Elder, finding it greatly ruined by the Danes, repaired and fortified it with a castle.

It is at present a large and populous borough, governed by two bailiffs, eight aldermen, a steward, recorder, and eighteen capital burgessees. The common burgessees are about 400 in number, who have all votes in electing members for parliament. It is a liberty within itself, and has a convenient harbour. Some of the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in coals, iron,

iron, deals, corn, wine, brandy and rum. It is pretty populous and large, and chiefly consists of one street, near a mile in length, which branches out into many lanes. There were anciently three churches, two of which are still made use of, and the third is converted into a school-house. It has a large library for the use of the ministers of the place, and the clergy of the neighbouring towns, who generally reside here, because the air where their churches stand is much more unwholsome. There are also three meeting-houses; the dwelling-houses, which are about 1000 in number, are but indifferently built, and the streets are narrow and not paved. Near it are two bridges, over the rivers Stelmer and Blackwater.

Here is a grammar-school and a work-house, in which the poor weave sackcloth. Blackwater-bay is famous for its excellent oysters, called Wall-fleets, from a wall of earth, which extends five miles along the shore, where they lie. Mr. Camden is of opinion, that these oysters are those, which Pliny says supplied the Roman kitchens. There are still to be seen the intrenchments thrown up by the Danes.

Here are the ruins of a priory of Carmelites, or white-friars, founded by Richard Gravesend, bishop of London, and Richard Iselham, priest, about the year 1292, and dedicated to St. Mary. It continued till the general dissolution, when it was valued at 26 l. a year. The town-hall is an ancient structure; and here was formerly a castle belonging to the king, now demolished. Many antiquities have been dug up here, such as ancient coins, among which was a piece of gold, almost as large as a guinea, with a bust of Nero upon one side, and of Agrippina on the other, not ill executed; as also Saxon armour, iron cups, and
the

the like. The market is held on Saturdays; and there is a fair on the 18th of September, for toys.

There is a custom in this place, that when a man dies intestate, his lands and tenements descend to his youngest son; or if he dies without issue, to his youngest brother. This custom is termed *Borough-Englilh*, and is said to have been originally much more general, and to have arisen from the lewdness and tyranny of the ancient feudal lords, who, when any of those who held under them married, claimed the first night, with the bride: as some doubt, therefore, naturally arose, whether the first born child was legitimate, this custom was established, to exclude such child from the inheritance, and the youngest was preferred in its stead, as being the most distant from suspicion.

At *LITTLE-MALDEN*, near this town, was an hospital for the leprous townsmen of Malden, founded by one of the kings of England, before the sixteenth of Edward the Second, and dedicated to St. Giles. The mastership or wardenship of this hospital was in the gift of the crown. King Richard the Second granted the house to the prior of Bicknacre, near Chelmsford; but afterwards it was united to the abbey of Billeigh.

At *DANBURY*, a village about four miles to the east of Malden, between thirty and forty years ago, were found some celts, and at *Fyfield*, some were also found in the year 1749, with a great quantity of the metal for casting them.

STANESGATE, is a village between Malden and the sea, on the south side of the Gulph. Here was a priory of monks of the Cluniac order, founded by the predecessors of the priors of Lewes, to which monastery it was subordinate. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and was in being in the year 1176; but was suppressed by cardinal

dinal Wolsey in the eighteenth of Henry the Eighth, when its revenue was valued at 43l. 8s. 3d. per annum. Upon the cardinal's attainder, this cell was granted, in consideration of the exchange of some other lands, to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

On returning back to Witham, and proceeding eight miles to the northward, we come to BRAINTREE, a large town seated on a hill, eleven miles north of Chelmsford, fourteen south by west of Sudbury, and forty-two north-east of London. It was lately famous for a great manufacture of baize and says. The church was anciently half a mile out of the town; but in the reign of Edward the Third, it was removed to this place. This town abounds with dissenters, and Henry Smith, one of their denomination, left 2800l. to be laid out in land, for the relief of the poor of this and some neighbouring parishes. Here is a charity-school. The market is on Wednesdays, and there are two fairs, one on the 8th of May, and the other on the 2d of October, for cattle, butter, and cheese.

Two miles north of Braintree is BOCKING, one of the largest villages in Essex, where the clothiers have good houses, and a sort of baize peculiar to themselves, called Bockings.

Five miles north-east of Braintree is HALSTEAD, which is seated on a hill, at the foot of which runs the river Coln. Here a college was begun by Robert de Bouchier, lord chancellor of England, in the fourteenth year of Edward the Third, for eight priests. The town has a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs; the first on the 6th of May, and the other on the 29th of October, for cattle.

About six miles to the east of Braintree is COGGESHALL, or COXALL, a town which is supposed

fed to have received its name from Coccillus, a Roman, who was buried there. It is seated on the river Blackwater, over which it has a bridge, and was formerly a great clothing town, it having once a very considerable manufacture of baize and says, and a peculiar kind of stuff, called Coggeshall whites, said to be finer than any other woollen-cloth. By the road side, near this town, was found a grotto, with arched-work, in which was a phial, containing a lamp covered with a Roman-tile, fourteen inches long; as also some urns, with ashes and bones in them: one of these urns resembled coral, and had this inscription, COCCILLI M. that is, to the manes of Coccillus. And at Westfield, about three quarters of a mile from hence, was found, three hundred years ago, a brazen pot, covered with a white paste or clay, as hard as brick, which contained two other earthen pots, the innermost of which was covered with stuff like velvet, and tied with a silk lace. In this there were whole bones, and many pieces of small bones, wrapped up in fine silk. They were shown to the abbot who owned the land, who took them for relicks of saints, and laid them up in his vestry.

At Coggeshall was an abbey of Cistercian monks, founded by king Stephen and Maud his queen in the year 1140, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. William de Humberstane, with the king's license, gave the manor of Tillingham to these monks, for the finding of one wax light to burn before the high altar, at the abbey church in the time of high mass daily. At the general suppression it was valued at 251 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 298 l. by Speed. The market at this town is on Saturdays, and it has one fair, on Whit-Tuesday, for horses and toys.

CASTLE-HENNINGHAM, so called to distinguish
it

The South West View of Hemmingham Castle, in the County of Essex .



it from Sible Henningham, is a village upon the Coln, ten miles north of Coggeshall. Here a castle was built by the family of the Veres, afterwards earls of Oxford. Here John de Vere, earl of Oxford, entertained Henry the Seventh, with all possible splendor and magnificence, and having on this extraordinary occasion put his retainers in rich liveries, and it being contrary to an act of parliament then in force, forbidding the giving of liveries to any but menial servants, the king said at his going away, By my faith, my lord, I thank you for my good cheer; but I must not suffer to have my laws broken before my face, my attorney-general must talk with you.

It now belongs to Thomas Ashurst, Esq; and is a beautiful ancient structure, standing on the top of a small hill, and built in the old Gothic taste; below it is a fine modern built house, and both together form a delightful seat. There is a fair at the village on May 3, for cattle and toys.

Here Aubery de Vere, first earl of Oxford, or rather, as some think, Lucia, his countess, who became first prioress, built a small Benedictine nunnery, before the year 1190, dedicated to the Holy-Cross, St. Mary and St. James, which, at the time of the suppression, was valued at 29l. 12s. 10d. per annum.

At HENNINGHAM, near Henningham Castle, Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, founded an hospital about the year 1250, in which were two or three chaplains, besides a clerk, servant, and several poor sick people.

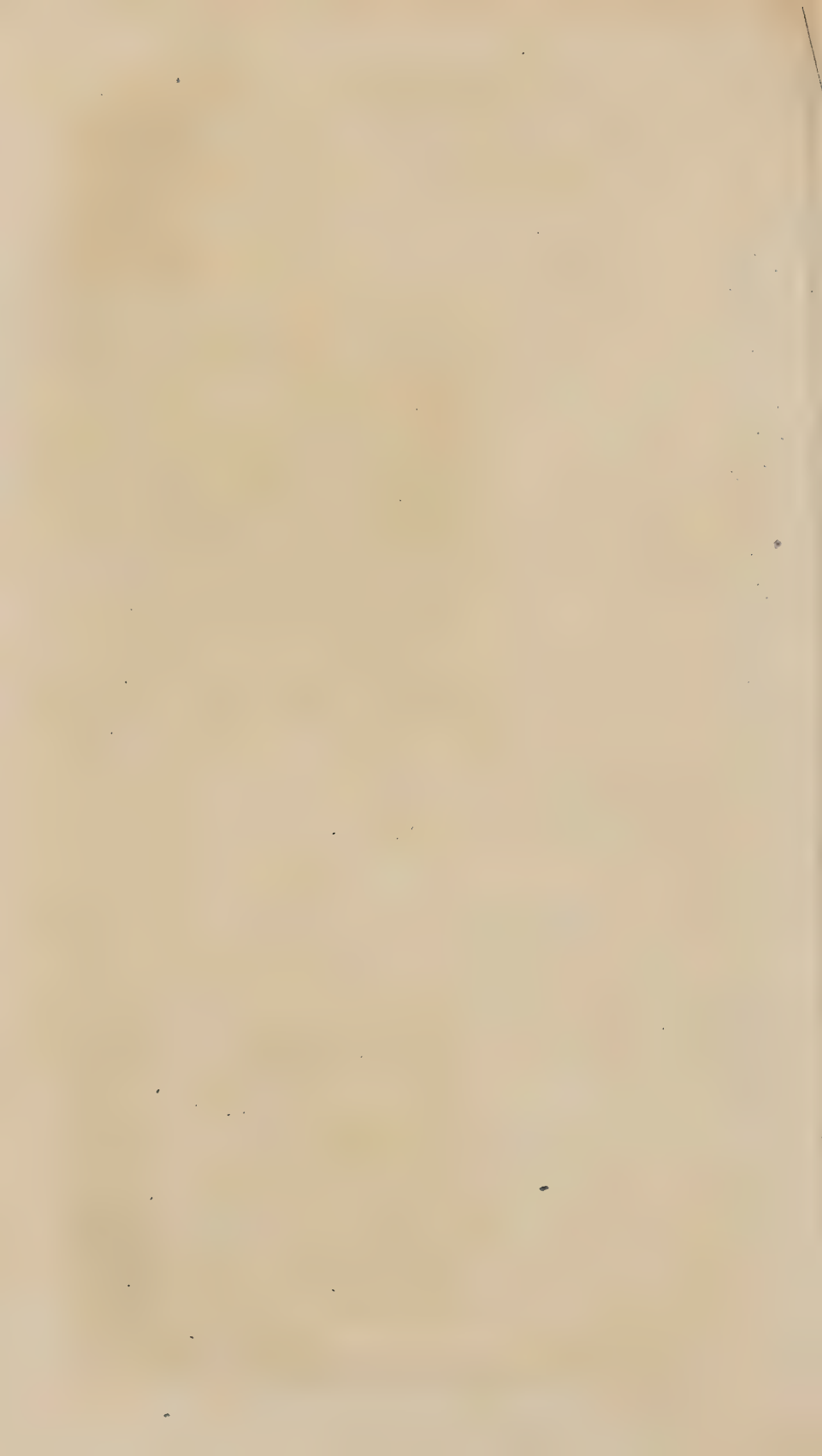
About eleven miles east of Coggeshall is COLCHESTER, which derives its name from the river Coln, that waters the north and east parts of the town. It is twenty-one miles west by south of Harwich, twenty-two east-north-east of Chelmsford, and fifty on the same point from London.

This

This is the Colonia of Antoninus ; and at first view appears to be Roman ; for, among the materials of the castle, town, and churches, there are thought to be more Roman bricks, than in any town in England. The castle has abundance of these bricks, and there is great reason to believe, that its foundation was laid by the Romans ; for, one part being broken up, a coin of Galba was found between the bricks, laid in the manner that those pieces have been designedly placed, to discover the age of the building : but they are daily demolishing one part of this ancient monument to prevent its falling, or to make money of the materials. There are four towers still standing, but not directly at the corners ; one is round, and the rest square. Under the fort, within the walls, is a large vault, designed perhaps for a magazine or storehouse, tho' probably it has never been used as such. The castle and its area seem to have taken up about four acres of ground ; and a great part of the wall that enclosed the whole is still remaining. This castle, of which we have given a view in its present state, is said to have been built by Edward, son of king Alfred, soon after the year 910, about which time he had taken many towns from the Danes, which he fortified with castles. Others with greater probability have related, that the town with its castle having been destroyed by the Danes, and lying in ruins, William the Conqueror granted it to the famous Eudo Dapifer, who built the present castle on the site of an ancient palace. The present possessor is Charles Grey, Esq ; It is said, that at the late queen's-head in the market-place, the stable and room over it is a Roman structure. In May 1763, a Roman mosaic, or tessellated pavement, was discovered on the north side of the High-street in Colchester, in a garden belonging to Mr. John Bernard,



The North East View of Colchester Castle



Bernard, apothecary and surgeon, late part of the yard of the falcon and queen's-head inn. It consists of a border of red *tesseræ*, or dies, each about an inch square, including a curious workmanship made of lesser *tesseræ*, black, white, red and yellow, looking like a beautiful carpet.

This place is at present very populous, and the most considerable town in the county. It is about three miles in circumference, and was formerly walled round, and some ruins of the walls are still remaining. The streets of which two run from the top of the hill to the bottom, are spacious; and though not in general remarkably well built, have a great many good houses in them. Besides the Guildhall, adjoining to which is the town-jail, and a building called Dutch-Baize-hall, belonging to a corporation for the support of the baize and say manufactures, both of which are fine buildings. Here are sixteen parish churches; but there are not above six of them in use, the rest being either decayed, or have not a sufficient revenue to maintain an officiating clergyman; but besides these, there are a Dutch church, a French church, and five meeting-houses, two of which are for the Quakers. Here are also two free grammar-schools, two charity-schools, besides a workhouse for the poor. There are three bridges over the river Coln, which was made navigable by act of parliament for small craft, up to a long street, near the water-side, called the Hith, where there is a quay; and for ships of large burthen, to a place called the Wyvenhoe, within three miles of the town, where there is a custom-house; and a little farther, towards the sea, is capable of receiving a royal navy. Colchester is governed by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, or his deputy, eleven aldermen, a chamberlain, a town clerk, eighteen assistants,

assistants, and eighteen common-councilmen. The mayor and aldermen for the time being, with forty-eight guardians are also a corporation for the benefit of the poor. It was last incorporated by king William the Third, and is a liberty of itself, having four wards, and sixteen parishes, eight within the walls, and eight without; and it has the privilege of sending two members to parliament. It has the greatest manufacture of bays and says of any in the kingdom. Its excellent oysters have been already taken notice of, as well as its candid eringo-root. The woollen manufacturers here consume such shoals of sprats, that this fish is commonly called in Essex, The Weaver's Beef of Colchester. There are here three markets, on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, with four fairs, viz. on Easter-Tuesday, for wholesale taylors, on the 24th of June, for horses, the 23d of July, for horned cattle and horses, and on the 20th of October, for cheese, butter and toys.

This town held out a long siege in the time of the grand rebellion; when Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisle, with several other of the king's friends, being blocked up in it by the parliament's army under Sir Thomas Fairfax, it was at last reduced by famine, and both Sir Charles and Sir George were executed soon after the surrender.

This town had once many religious houses, but the abbey of St. John Baptist, built by Eudo, a great officer in the court of king William the Conqueror, and his two sons, was the principal. It was begun in the year 1096, and finished in 1104, when it was consecrated by Mauritius, bishop of London, and filled with Benedictine monks. It was well endowed by the founder and several others; and the abbots sat in the House of Lords, as barons of the kingdom; but John Beach,
the

the last prior of this abbey, being executed for high treason, it fell into the hands of Henry the Eighth, and was valued, at the dissolution of religious houses, at 534 l. a year, by Dugdale. There is still a very handsome gate-house remaining, with four turrets ; but all the rest is entirely demolished. The sight of it is at present a garden, consisting of fourteen acres of land. Two walls are standing, one on the south, next the fields, and the other on the same front, about the middle of the ground, which, perhaps, separated the building from the garden. The gardener, some years ago, dug up several stone-coffins, perforated at the bottom.

Eudo, at the command of king Henry the First, erected on the south-east side of the town an hospital for a master, and several leprous people, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. Henry the Second took them under his protection, and Richard the First granted them a fair of two days, which still continues. The church is now parochial, and a rectory. The hospital was, at the dissolution, valued at no more than 11 l. a year.

On the south side of the town, one Arnulphus founded a monastery, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the First, for Austin canons, dedicated to St. Julian and St. Botolph, and became prior of it himself. This was esteemed the first house of the order in England, and was valued, at the suppression, at 113 l. 12 s. a year, by Speed, but at 523 l. 17 s. by Dugdale.

On the south-west side of Colchester was an hospital or priory of Crouched friars, in which the brethren of the holy-cross, who came into England in the year 1244, were placed. They were the first of their order ; and the house is called in the London Registry, The hospital or chapel of the Crossed friars ; but the chief monastery was after-

afterwards built near Tower-Hill. It was valued, at the suppression, at 7 l. 7 s. 8 d. per annum.

Near the east gate of the town was another religious house, built by Robert, lord Fitzwalter, in 1309, for Franciscans, or Grey friars. He afterwards took their habit, and spent the rest of his days there.

At COLN-WHITE, or EARL'S COLN, a village on the river Coln, between Colchester and Hatfield, Albericus de Vere, erected a priory for Black monks, from Abingdon in Berkshire, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the First, and became himself a monk in this house, which he made subordinate to that abbey. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and St. John the Evangelist; and had, at the dissolution, a prior and ten monks, possessed of a yearly revenue of the value of 156 l. 12 s. 4 d. A fair is held here on the 25th of March, for cattle and toys.

William Gilbert, a most learned physician in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, was born at Colchester, in the year 1540. Having finished his studies at the English universities, he travelled into foreign parts, where he probably obtained the degree of doctor of physic, since it does not appear that he took it at home. At his return to England, he was chosen a member of the college of physicians in London, and appointed chief physician to queen Elizabeth; which station he likewise enjoyed under king James the First. He published a treatise concerning the load-stone, which was the first regular system on that curious subject. He was also the inventor of two excellent instruments for finding out the latitude of any place, without the help of the sun, moon and stars. He died unmarried, November the 30th, 1603, and was buried in the church of Holy Trinity in Colchester.

Samuel

Samuel Harfnet, a learned writer in the seventeenth century, and successively bishop of Chichester and Norwich, and archbishop of York, was born in the town of Colchester, June the 20th, 1561. Having finished his studies in King's college, and Pembroke hall, in Cambridge, he accepted the mastership of the free-school in Colchester, which, however, he soon resigned. About the year 1597, he became chaplain to Dr. Richard Bancroft, bishop of London, and afterwards archbishop of Canterbury; by whose interest he was promoted, first to a prebend in St. Paul's cathedral, then to the archdeaconry of Essex, soon after to the mastership of Pembroke hall, Cambridge, as also to the vice-chancellorship of that university; and advancing gradually through several inferior church preferments, he rose at last, in 1609, to the bishopric of Chichester. In 1619 he was translated to the see of Norwich; and, in 1628, to the archbishoprick of York, which, however, he did not long enjoy; for he died on the 25th of May, 1631, and was interred in Chigwell-church, in Essex. Among other things he published a sermon against predestination, which is commonly looked upon as a most masterly performance.

About eight miles to the south of Colchester is a small island called MERSEY, made partly by the sea, partly by the rivers Coln and Blackwater, and partly from a stream that runs from one river to the other. In this island is a village called West Mersey, where there was a small priory founded by Roger Fitz Ranulph, and made a cell of Benedictines to the abbey of St. Audouen, at Roan in Normandy, by St. Edward, and dedicated to St. Helen. It was a prior-alien, and suppressed with others by king Henry the Fifth, and given to archbishop Chicheley and his heirs, who settled it on his

his collegiate church at Higham-Ferrers in Northamptonshire, which he founded for eight secular canons, four clerks, and six choristers. This isle is a place of great strength, for which reason the parliament put 1000 men therein, to guard it from any attempts of the Dutch, in the war with that nation.

ST. OSYTH is a village twelve miles south by east of Colchester, where there was a priory, named after that Holy Virgin, who having devoted herself entirely to the service of God, was stabbed by the Danish pyrates, and reputed a saint. Richard de Beauvis, bishop of London, built, and endowed this religious house to her memory, about the year 1120, and filled it with regular canons of the order of St. Augustine. The church was supplied by the canons, or such as they appointed, till the suppression, when both the manor, monastery and advowson, were given to Thomas lord Cromwell; but he being attainted, they returned to the crown, and were by Edward the Sixth granted to Sir Thomas Darcy. It was valued, at the dissolution, at 677 l. a year, by Dugdale; but by Speed, at 758 l. It is still entire, and is a regular handsome structure, considering the time in which it was built, as will appear from the view we have here given of it. There is one fair at this village, on Holy Thursday, for toys.

At HORSLEY PARVA, a village six miles to the northward of Colchester, was a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to a monastery of the same order, at Thetford in Norfolk, founded in the reign of Henry the First, by Robert Fitz Godbold, and Beatrix his wife. It was dedicated to St. Peter, and suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey, when the annual revenue of it was rated at 27 l. 7 s. 11 d.



The South View of St. Olaf's Priory in the County of Essex.

We shall now return to Colchester, and taking the road which leads to Harwich, proceed to MANNIGTREE, or MAINTREE, as it is commonly called, which is a little dirty town, twelve miles west of Harwich, nine north-east of Colchester, and fifty-nine north-east of London. It has however, a good market held on Tuesdays, and a fair on the 15th of June, for toys. The church is a chapel of ease to Mistley, a neighbouring village.

HARWICH is situated twelve miles south east of Ipswich, twenty-one east by north of Colchester, and seventy-one north-east of London. It derives its name from the Saxon word Harewic, a haven or bay, where a navy may ride, and is supposed to have been thus called from a sea-fight in the harbour, between the Saxons and Danes in the year 884. This is the station of the packet boats between England and Holland. The harbour is safe and so spacious, that 100 men of war have been seen in it at a time, besides 3 or 400 sail of colliers. The mouth of the harbour is at high water near three miles wide; but the channel, by which alone the ships can come into it, is deep and narrow, lying on the Suffolk side; whence all the ships that come in or go out, are commanded by a strong fort, called Landguard-fort, built by king James the First, on a point of land so encompassed by the sea at high water, that it seems an island lying about a mile from the shore. The fortifications on the land side were demolished in the reign of king Charles the First; but tho' an act of parliament has since been passed for erecting new fortifications, and ground has been purchased for that purpose, little or no progress has been made in the work. The town is not very large, but is well built and populous, and fortified by nature, by its being almost surrounded by the sea. Between the town and a high hill,

not far distant, is a cliff consisting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe ; and being afterwards taken out and dried, become an almost impenetrable and durable stone ; and of this the walls and pavement of Harwich consist. On the top of the above hill, which stands to the south of the harbour, and opposite to the fort, is a large, high built light-house, whence there is an extensive view of the coasts of Essex and Sussex. It is about half a mile distant from the town, and there is a fine walk to it, which is extremely pleasant in fine weather. Here is a very good yard for building ships, with store-houses, cranes, launches, and other necessities. The inns are very good, but the great concourse of passengers made accommodations so extravagantly dear, that sloops were sometime since fitted up, to sail directly for Holland and Germany from the Thames. This town was first made a borough and corporation, in the reign of Edward the Second, by Thomas Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, and marshal of England. It received a new charter in the time of James the First, by the interest of Edward Coke, then attorney general, and afterwards recorder of this town for life. Which charter, and all other immunities belonging to the town, were through the mediation of Sir Harbottle Grimstone, their recorder at that time, and master of the Rolls, confirmed by Charles the Second. The corporation at present consists of a mayor, chosen annually on St. Andrew's day, out of eight aldermen. There is also a recorder, and twenty-four capital burgesses ; the members to serve in parliament are chosen, by the said mayor, aldermen and burgesses. The mayor has the power of keeping admiralty courts, which have a jurisdiction over all naval affairs,

The church here, ever since the reformation, has been a chapel to the mother church at Dover court, a village a little to the south of it. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, on May 1 and October 18, for toys.

To the south-west of Harwich are three islands, called HOLMES, HORSEY, and PEWET, separated from the main land only by the winding of a stream, and the influx of the sea. Upon these islands is found a sea fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food. To the south of these islands are three villages, included within a liberty or lordship, anciently termed the liberty of the soke, in which the sheriff of the county has no power, and wherein no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him, without the lord's consent.

Eight miles south of Harwich is WALTON, a village where a fair is kept on the 2d of July for toys. In the reign of Richard the Second, there were found in this parish two teeth so very large, that 200 men's teeth might be cut out of them. Authors pretend, that they were the teeth of giants, which is ridiculous; tho' it must be acknowledged, that teeth of a very extraordinary size have been found in different parts of this kingdom; but to what animal they belonged, is not very certain; for some are of opinion, they were elephants teeth; and others those of the morse.

GREAT CLACTON is a village fourteen miles south by west of Harwich, where Richard de Belmeis, in the reign of Henry the First, erected a stately house in the midst of a park; but it is long since gone to decay. There is a fair here on the 29th of June, for toys.

LITTLE CLACTON is about two miles north of the former, and has a fair on the 25th of July, for toys.

Besides the eminent persons already mentioned, in treating of the principal places in this county, it has produced the following remarkable persons.

Richard de Badew, the first and original founder of Clare-hall in Cambridge, was descended of an honourable family seated at Great Badew, near Chelmsford, from which place the family took their surname; and here probably Richard was born. In 1326, he was chancellor of the university of Cambridge; and having purchased two tenements in Miln-street, he there laid, in the year above-mentioned, the foundation of a building, to which he gave the name of University-hall. This building was afterwards completed by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester; whence it acquired the name of Clare-hall. The revenues of it have been since augmented by several benefactors; so that at present it contains one master, eighteen fellows, and sixty-three scholars.

Thomas Bouchier, archbishop of Canterbury, in the successive reigns of Henry the Sixth, Edward the Fourth, Edward the Fifth, Richard the Third, and Henry the Seventh, was the son of William Bouchier, earl of Ewe in Normandy and the countess of Essex, was born at Hawstead in this county. His first dignity in the church was that of dean of St. Martin's in London; whence he rose to the see of Worcester, then to that of Ely; and, last of all, to the archbishopric of Canterbury, to which he was advanced in 1454. In the month of December following he was created a cardinal-priest of *St. Cyriacus in Thermis*; and next year was made chancellor of England, tho' he resigned that office in a little time after. He performed the marriage ceremony between Henry the Seventh, and the daughter of Edward the Fourth;

Fourth; and having presided over the English church for the space of thirty-two years, he died the 30th of March, 1486, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury. He was the principal instrument of introducing the art of printing into England, having first suggested the thought of sending Caxton to Harlem, where that gentleman made himself master of the art.

Thomas Audley, descended of an ancient and honourable family in this county, was born in the year 1488. After finishing his studies at the university, he removed to the inns of court, where he distinguished himself so much by his abilities, as to attract the notice of the duke of Suffolk, by whom he was recommended to king Henry the Eighth. By his majesty's influence he was chosen speaker of that parliament, which confirmed the king's divorce from Catharine of Arragon, and his marriage with Anne Boleyn. Upon the resignation of lord chancellor More in 1532, Mr. Audley succeeded him in that high office. He afterwards sat in judgment upon his predecessor, who was condemned to death, for refusing to acknowledge the king's supremacy. About the same time, he was advanced to the honour of knighthood; and, in 1538, he was created a baron of the realm, by the title of lord Audley of Walden, in the county of Essex. He presided at the trial of bishop Fisher, Anne Boleyn, the marquis of Exeter, and of several other eminent personages. He received from the king, a grant of the site of the priory of Christ's church, together with all the church plate, and lands belonging to that house. And, after enjoying the favour of his sovereign for the greatest part of his life, and the office of chancellor for upwards of twelve years, died April the 30th, 1544, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

Sir Anthony Cooke, preceptor or governor to king Edward the Sixth, and great grandson to Sir Thomas Cooke, formerly lord mayor of London, was born at Gidding-hall in Essex, about the year 1506. Where he received his education, is not known; certain it is, he was a complete master of the whole circle of arts, being equally skilled in the languages, philology, poetry, history, and mathematicks. These qualifications could not fail to recommend him to the notice of king Edward the Sixth's guardians, who appointed him chief instructor to that prince; in which office how well he acquitted himself, the great progress Edward made in all branches of learning, is a sufficient testimony. During the persecuting reign of queen Mary, he was an exile for religion; but, upon the accession of queen Elizabeth, he returned to his native country, where he spent the remainder of his days in peace, and died at Gidding-hall, June 11, 1576, in the seventieth year of his age.

Horace Vere, baron of Tilbury, youngest brother of the famous general Sir Francis Vere, and himself a very accomplished commander, was born at Kirby-hall in Essex, in the year 1565. Entering early into a military life, he accompanied, in the twentieth year of his age, his brother Sir Francis into the Low Countries, where he distinguished himself greatly by his courage and conduct. In 1600 he had a large share in obtaining the victory at the battle of Newport. He afterwards signalized himself in the defence of Ostend; as also in performing a most gallant retreat with 4000 men, from Spinola, the Spanish general, who was at the head of an army three times that number. He likewise commanded the forces that were sent to the assistance of the king of Bohemia; and though he was not able to prevent the
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ruin of that prince's affairs, he yet continued, for a considerable time, to check the progress of the Imperial arms. At length, as a reward of his services, he was, upon the accession of king Charles the First, advanced to the peerage, by the title of lord Vere, baron of Tilbury; being the first peer created by that monarch. He died May the 2d, 1635, and was interred, with military honours, in Westminster abbey.

William Bedell, bishop of Kilmore in Ireland, and one of the most famous prelates in that kingdom during the last century, was born at Black Notley in Essex, in the year 1570. Having gone through the usual course of academical learning in Emmanuel college in Cambridge, he removed to St. Edmundsbury in Suffolk, where he had obtained a living. In 1604, Sir Henry Wotton being appointed, by king James ambassador to the state of Venice, Mr. Bedell attended that gentleman thither in the quality of chaplain. During his residence in that city, which was for the space of eight years, he contracted an intimate acquaintance with the celebrated Antonio de Dominis, archbishop of Spalatro, as also with the famous father Paul Sarpi, author of the history of the council of Trent. The former had even such a regard for him, that, upon his return to England, he accompanied him to that kingdom. In 1627, Mr. Bedell was elected provost of Trinity college in Dublin; and about two years after, was raised to the sees of Kilmore and Ardagh; in which high station he behaved with a prudence, lenity and moderation, which gained him the affections of all ranks of people. Such, indeed, was his popularity, even among the Roman Catholics, that, upon the breaking out of the horrid Irish rebellion, the insurgents abstained, at least for some time, from all violence against his person; tho', at last,

he and his family were seized, and carried prisoners to the castle of Cloughboughter, where all of them, except the bishop, were put in irons. In about three weeks, however, himself, his two sons, and his son-in-law, were exchanged for two of the O'Rourkes; but his constitution being broken, as well by the infirmities of age, as by his late confinement, he breathed his last on the 7th of February, 1641, and was interred in the church-yard of his own cathedral. He translated into English the histories of the interdicts and inquisition, as also the two last books of the history of the council of Trent into Latin.

Francis Quarles, an English poet in the seventeenth century, and son of James Quarles, clerk of the green-cloth to queen Elizabeth, was born at Stewards, near Rumford in Essex, in 1592. He had his education at Christ's college in Cambridge, from whence he removed to Lincoln's-inn, London. He was afterwards preferred to the place of cup-bearer to Elizabeth, daughter of king James the First, electress palatine and queen of Bohemia. Upon the ruin of her husband's affairs, he went over to Ireland, where he became secretary to the learned archbishop Usher. During the civil wars, he adhered to the royal party, which exposed him to the resentment of the ruling powers, who stripped him of some of his estates, and plundered his books and manuscripts. Besides his other employments, he was chronologer to the city of London. His works are numerous, and chiefly of the pious and moral kind. He died September the 8th, 1644.

John Bastwick, a writer rendered remarkable by the implacable fury of his persecutors, was born at Writtle in Essex, in the year 1593. In 1614 he was entered in Emanuel college, Cambridge, where he continued but a short time. Leaving the university

versity without a degree, he travelled abroad for nine years, during which he took the degree of doctor of physic at Padua. Soon after his return to England, viz. in 1633, he published a book, entitled, *A Confutation of Popery, and a Scourge for the Pope and the Latin Bishops*; for which (as reflecting, tho' in a covert manner, upon the English prelates) he was tried in the high commission court, and fined in the sum of one thousand pounds, sentenced to be excommunicated, to be debarred the practice of physic, to have his books burnt, and to remain in prison till he made his recantation. During his confinement, he wrote another book, called, *An Apology for himself, addressed to the Bishops*; and a third, named, *The Lity*; for which new productions, he was again tried, in 1637, together with Burton and Prynne; and all of them were condemned in a fine of five thousand pounds each; to stand in the pillory, to lose their ears, and to suffer perpetual imprisonment; but upon the meeting, however, of the long parliament in 1640, they were all set at liberty; and Bastwick, in particular, upon his arrival in London (for he had been imprisoned in Scilly) was received amidst the shouts and acclamations of the people. He was alive in 1648; but how long he survived that period, or where he died, is uncertain.

Sir Harbottle Grimston, a famous lawyer, and master of the Kolls in the seventeenth century, was descended of an ancient family, and born at Bradfield-hall, near Manningtree, in Essex, about the year 1594. In what school he received his education, or whether he was ever a member of either of our universities, is uncertain. He studied, however, the municipal laws of the land, at Lincoln's-inn, with such diligence and success, that he became, at length, a very able practitioner.

In 1638 he was chosen recorder of Colchester; and, upon the meeting of the long parliaments in 1640, was elected one of the representative for that borough. He seems at first to have been of the puritannical party; but when the parliament, or rather the army, proceeded to the dissolution of the government, and the murder of the king, he broke off all connections with them, and even exerted his utmost interest for the service of the royal cause. Upon the death of king Charles the First, he travelled into foreign parts; and returning to his native country, was, in 1660, chosen speaker of the House of Commons in that parliament, which restored the king, and re-established the constitution. As a reward of his services, he was appointed master of the rolls; which honourable office he discharged for above twenty-three years, with equal ability and uprightness. He never published any thing of his own; but he assisted Dr. Burnet in compiling his History of the Reformation. He died December the 31st, 1683, at about the ninetieth year of his age.

Joseph Mede, one of the most learned English divines of the seventeenth century, was born in October 1586, at Berden in this county. He was instructed in grammar-learning, first at Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, and afterwards at Weathersfield in Essex. In 1602 he was entered of Christ's college, Cambridge, where he made such a rapid progress in his studies, that he was soon looked upon as a most accomplished scholar. In 1610 he was made master of arts; and, in a little time after, was chosen fellow of his college. About the year 1618, he took the degree of bachelor of divinity; but his modesty prevented him from taking that of doctor; and it was the same principle that restrained him from accepting the provostship of Trinity college, Dublin, which

which was twice pressed upon him with the greatest importunity. He died October the 1st, 1638, and was interred in the chapel of the college. His works are numerous. Some of them were published during his life-time, and others after his death. The principal are, a Commentary on the Revelations, and an explanation of several difficult passages of scripture.

John Gauden, successively bishop of Exeter and Worcester, in the seventeenth century, was born in the year 1605, at Mayland in Essex, of which parish his father was vicar. After learning the languages at St. Edmund's Bury in Suffolk, he removed, first to St. John's college in Cambridge, and afterwards to Wadham college in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity, and acted as tutor to several noblemen and gentlemen. In 1641, he was presented to the rectory of Bocking in Essex; and, during the civil wars, accommodated himself so well to the times, that he retained his preferment. In a few days after the death of king Charles the First, he published the Icon Basilike, which, some think, he likewise composed; though others maintain, that it was written by king Charles himself. Upon the restoration he was made one of the king's chaplains, and promoted to the bishopric of Exeter, from whence he was translated to that of Worcester, which he enjoyed but for a short time; for being seized with a fit of the stone and strangury, he died September the 20th, 1662, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was the author of several works, consisting chiefly of sermons and controversial pieces.

John Ray, a true Christian philosopher, and ingenious writer of the seventeenth century, was the son of a blacksmith, and born at Black Notley, in this county, November 29, 1628. He
received

received his education at a school in Braintree; near his native place, and at Catherine hall, and Trinity college in Cambridge, of which last he became a fellow. Having injured his health by too close an application to his studies, he was obliged to exercise himself by riding or walking in the fields; and this lead him to the study of plants, of which he published a very curious catalogue in 1660. The same year he was ordained deacon and priest, by Dr. Sanderson, bishop of Lincoln; but, upon the coming out of the uniformity-act, he could not comply with the terms it enjoined, he therefore resigned his fellowship, and in 1661, made a tour through several parts of Scotland as well as England. He afterwards travelled through Holland, Germany, Italy, France, &c. and upon his return home, published an account of his travels. In 1667 he was admitted a fellow of the Royal Society, and became, in the sequel, one of its most distinguished members. As he was not possessed of any paternal estate, and never enjoyed any living in the church, his circumstances were therefore far from being affluent. His chief dependance was upon a legacy of 60 l. a year, left him by his generous patron Mr. Willoughby, of Middleton. He died January the 17th, 1706, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Besides the works above-mentioned, he wrote *A History of Insects, Birds and Beasts; the Wisdom of God in the Works of the Creation; Physico-Theological Discourses*; and several other pieces.

Thomas Cawton, a very learned minister among the Non-conformists in the seventeenth century, and son of the reverend Mr. Thomas Cawton (a worthy and truly religious puritan, who was banished for his loyalty) was born at Wyvenhoe, near Colchester in Essex, about the year 1637, his father being then minister of that place. Accompanying








companying his father in his exile, he studied in the university of Leyden ; and, under the care of the famous professor Leusden, he made himself a thorough adept in the oriental languages. Upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, he returned to his native country, where he was entered of Merton college in Oxford, and admitted to the degree of bachelor of arts ; but his non-conforming principles prevented him from receiving any preferment in the church. He formed, however, a congregation of dissenters in the city of Westminster, to whom he preached for about seven years, when, falling into a bad state of health, he died of a consumption on the 10th of April, 1677, and was buried in the New Church in Tothill-street. He published a Dissertation on the Syriac Version of the New Testament, as also an Essay on the Usefulness of the Hebrew language in the Study of Philosophy.

Sir William Dawes, archbishop of York in the eighteenth century, and youngest son of Sir John Dawes, Bart. was born at Lyons, near Braintree in Essex, September 12, 1671. He received the first rudiments of learning at Merchant-Taylors school in London, whence he removed, in 1687, to St. John's college in Oxford, of which, about two years after, he was made a fellow. But his father's title and estate descending to him upon the death of his two brothers, he left Oxford ; and entering himself a nobleman in Catherine hall, Cambridge, lived in his eldest brother's chambers ; and, as soon as the rules of the university would permit, took the degree of master of arts. Upon his arriving at a proper age, he was ordained deacon and priest by Dr. Compton, bishop of London ; and being soon after created doctor in divinity, he was unanimously elected master of Catherine hall in 1696. He

rose gradually through several inferior church preferments, first to the bishopric of Chester, and afterwards to the archbishopric of York, to the last of which he was elected in 1714. In this high station he continued for above ten years, when he was carried off by an inflammation in his bowels, April the 30th, 1724, in the fifty-third year of his age. He was the author of several works ; some of which were published in his life-time, and others after his death ; the whole comprized in three volumes, 8vo.



F L I N T S H I R E.

   FLINTSHIRE, a county of North Wales, derives its name from Flint,  F  the county-town. It is bounded on   the north-west by the Irish sea, on the north-east and east, by an arm of the Irish sea, and the river Dee, which separates it from Cheshire; on the south, by part of Denbighshire; and by another part of Denbighshire, on the west. This is the smallest of all the Welch counties, it extending about thirty-three miles in length, and only nine miles in breadth; and is about seventy in circumference. Caerwys, a market town nearly in the centre, is about 200 miles north-west of London.

The air of this county is healthy and pleasant, though cold, from its being exposed to the north winds; and the land not being so mountainous, as in most of the other counties, is more fruitful; for the hills are not very high, and fall gently into fertile plains. Hence this county yields some wheat, and great plenty of barley, oats and rye, while the vallies afford pasture for black cattle, which, though very small, are excellent beef. There are likewise fed some sheep, and but few goats. Great quantities of butter and cheese are made in this county, which likewise produces much honey, from which the liquor called metheglin is made, and frequently drank in this and the neighbouring counties. Flintshire also abounds with all sorts of fish and fowl. It has great plenty of
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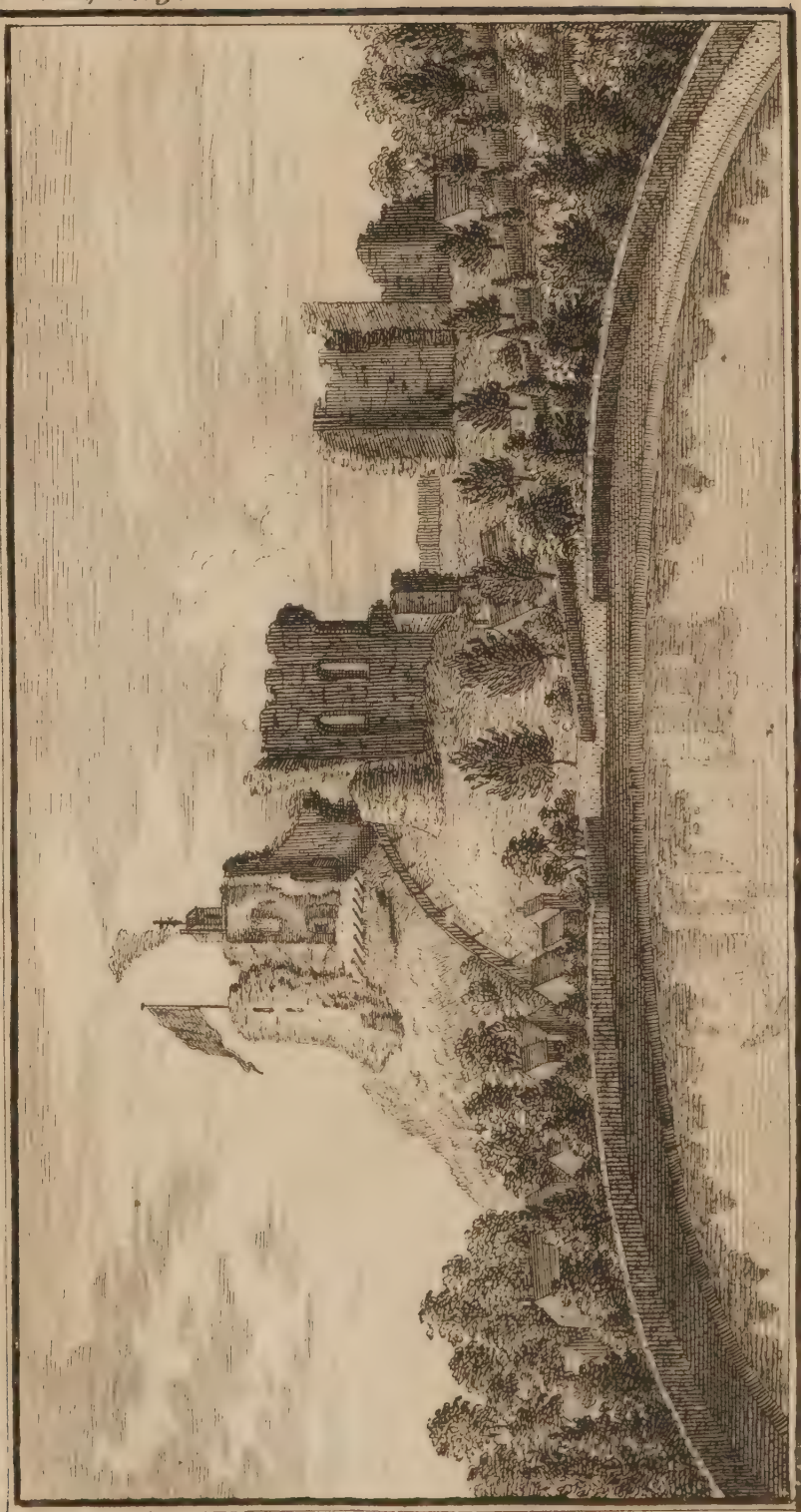
pit-coal, and the hills of this county yield mill-stones, and lead-ore, in great abundance. In sinking some new coal-pits at Leeswood, in the parish of Mold, near the river Alen, was discovered a flat sort of slate, upon which are frequently found the leaves of several plants, delineated with as great exactness as an impression of them, in plaster of Paris or clay.

The principal rivers with which this county is watered, are the Dee, the Wheeler, the Alen, the Clwyd, and the Sevion. The Dee we have already described among the rivers of Cheshire. The Wheeler rises near Caerwys, and running westward falls into the Clwyd, almost opposite to Denbigh. The Alen rises some miles south of Ruthin in Denbighshire, and running first a few miles north, afterwards directs its course eastward, and falls into the Dee, north of Wrexham in Denbighshire. The course of the Clwyd has been already mentioned among the rivers of Denbighshire. The Sevion rises on the north side of Caerwys, and running to the westward, falls into the Clwyd, a few miles north-west of the city of St. Asaph.

At Caergile in this county, about seven or eight miles south by west of Chester, is a spring as clear as crystal, and yet it will turn whitish with oil of tartar; it also turns green with syrup of violets, and red with logwood. A gallon will yield 220 grains of sediment, of which sixty-six are earth, and 154 are sea-salt and lime-stone. It appears to be impregnated with calcarious nitre and sea-salt, and if drank to a quart or two, will purge pretty well. It has cured a woman that had a loathsome scurf all over her body, by drinking three pints of this water in a day. Likewise several children afflicted with scorbutick disorders,
and

The South East View of Hawarden Castle, in the County of Flint.

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and the leprosy have been cured by drinking and washing.

This county is divided into five hundreds, in which are contained one city, two market towns, about twenty-eight parishes, and sends two members to parliament, one for Flint, and the other for the county. It is in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the diocese of St. Asaph, and partly in that of Chester.

We shall enter this county by the road from Chester, where we find HAWARDEN, a village where there is a castle called by the Britons Pen-ar Lâk, or Pennardha lawg, vulgarly Pennard y Las. It is situated south of Flint, on the eastern limits of the county, five miles from Chester, near the banks of the Dee. It is uncertain who was its first founder. It was held by Seneschalship of the earls of Chester, and was the seat of the barons of Mount-halt, or de Monte Alto, who were stewards of the Palatinate of Chester, and took their title from Mold (an abbreviation of Mont-hault) in this neighbourhood. Robert, the last baron of this family, for want of issue male, made it over to queen Isabel, wife to king Edward the Second, and the possession was afterwards transferred to the Stanleys, earls of Derby. It remained entire till about the year 1680; but now there are only the ruins of the walls; and of these we have given an engraved view. One part of them is upon a hill, and on them are built a small structure, perhaps designed for a prospect into the adjacent country. They are now in the possession of Sir John Glynne, Bart. the gardens of whose seat are adjoining thereto. There are three fairs here, on May 8, October 1, and December 24, for cattle.

In a small part of this county, to the east of the river Dee, and in a manner wholly divided from

from the rest, and called the English Maclor, is a village named BANGOR, fourteen miles south-east of Hawarden. It was called by writers Bangor Monachorum, from a famous monastery, said to be as old as the time of the British king Lucius. The writers of ecclesiastical history say, that the great monastery here produced the heretick Palagius, as he is reputed by some; though others look upon him to have been a very learned, ingenious and pious man. Gildar, also one of our most ancient English writers, was a monk in this abbey, and abbot in the year 600. This monastery, it is affirmed, was supplied with learned men, at the coming of St. Augustine into England. It stood in a valley, as Leland informs us, yet had a circumference like a walled town, with two gates, half a mile distant from each other. Bede acquaints us, that the number of monks in this monastery was so great, that when divided into seven parts, every part consisted of at least 300 men. We have no account of the founder handed down to us, or of its revenues; but the last no doubt were very great. It was destroyed soon after Augustine came into England, because the monks refused to submit to his Romish ceremonies. However, at his instigation, Ethelfred invaded the Britons in Wales, who, coming against that prince, took the monks with them to pray for their success: but Ethelfred being conqueror, killed above 1200 of them, naked and unarmed as they were. After this the monastery went so to decay, that William of Malmesbury, who lived soon after the conquest, affirms, there was nothing here, in his time, but the ruins of churches, walls and gates, together with heaps of rubbish.

Six miles south by west of Chester, and about four miles south of Hawarden, is CAERGWRLEY, a village,

The North West View of Caergwrley Castle, in the County of Flint.

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village, near which is Hope Castle, seated on the Alen, a small river that empties itself into the Dee. It is in the parish of Eastyn, otherwise called Queen Hope. King Edward the First in his grant, made in the tenth year of his reign to John earl of Warren and Surrey, of the lordships of Bromfield and Yâl, excepts out of it the castle and land of Hope, reserving them to himself and his heirs, which before was part of Bromfield; which Griffith and Llewellyn, sons of Madoc, held at the beginning of the war, either by themselves or their guardians. Into this castle the said king retired when the Welsh had surprized his army. It is now in the possession of the earl of Derby.

Caergwrley has four fairs, namely, on Shrove-Tuesday, May 16, August 12, and October 27, for cattle.

Near the above castle, mill-stones are hewn out of the rock, and at a small distance, a gardener digging, about the beginning of the last century, discovered a Roman hypocaust, or hot-bath, hewn out of a solid rock. It was floored with brick, set in mortar, and roofed with polished tiles, which in many places were perforated. This roof was supported by brick-pillars, and was furnished with tubes of the same materials, for carrying off the force of the heat. This hypocaust was about eighteen feet in length, and fourteen in breadth; and by an inscription upon some of the tiles, it appears to have been built by the twentieth legion, which was stiled Victrix, and lay in garrison at Chester.

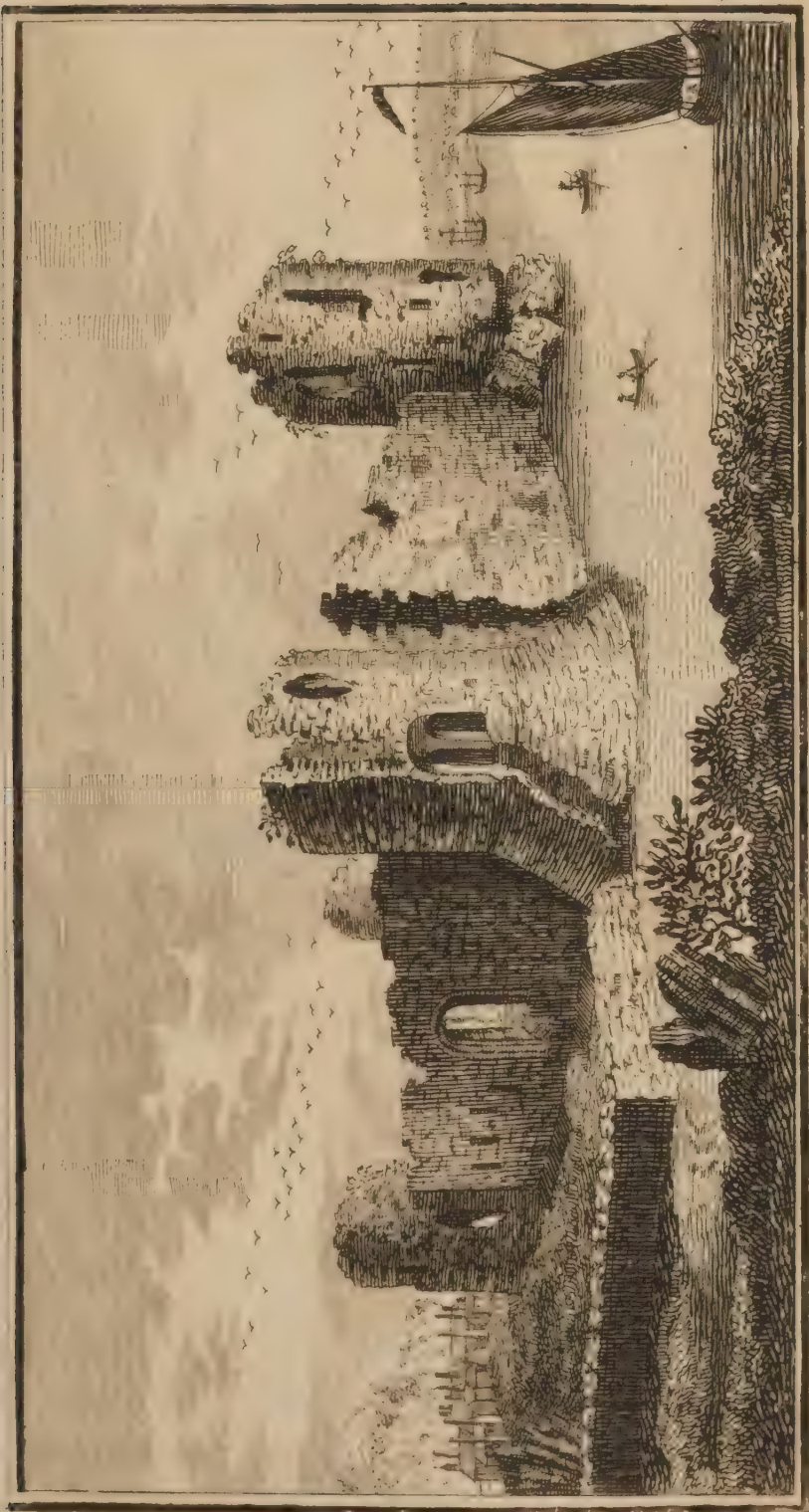
It has been commonly said, that in the south part of the county, which is watered by the little river Alen, there is a mountain, on which is a spring, that ebbs and flows at set times, like the sea; but this wonder, if it ever existed, has now ceased;

ceased ; for after examination, it has been found that this spring at present, is like all others, and neither ebbs nor flows at particular times.

FLINT, the next town on the road, is situated twelve miles west by north of Chester, five east of Holywell, and 201 north-west of London, and is commodiously seated on the estuary of the Dee, but is a small place, governed by a mayor and burgessees, and sends one member to parliament. It has four fairs, namely, on February 14, June 24, August 10, and November 30, for cattle.

Here is a castle begun by king Henry the Second, and finished by king Edward the First. King Richard the Second, on his return from Ireland, was for some time entertained here ; but on his departure, was taken prisoner by Henry Bul-lingbroke, duke of Lancaster, and not long after put to death. Formerly vessels coming up the wide mouth of the river Dee, anchored under the walls of this castle. There have been, within the memory of man, rings in the walls to which ships used to be fastened. The castle now belongs to the crown.

Five miles to the westward of Flint is HOLYWELL, a considerable town, consisting principally of one long street, in which there are not only several good inns, but many genteel houses. It took its name from a celebrated spring, which, according to the Popish legends, it is said rose miraculously from the blood of St. Winefrid, a christian virgin, who was ravished and beheaded in this place by a pagan tyrant. The water breaks out from a rock of free-stone with such a rapid stream, as, within a small distance, is able to turn several mills. Over the head of it, was built a chapel dedicated to St. Winefrid, by the monks of Basingwerk, a place in the neighbourhood. In a window of the chancel was formerly to be seen
St.



The South-East View of Flint Castle.

St. Winefrid's story, and her pretended restoration to life, by St. Beuno, painted on the glass windows of the chancel. The present structure, of which we have given a view, was erected in the time of king Henry the Seventh, and consists of very neat workmanship. The front is composed of a kind of small pediment, supported by slender stone-pillars, under which the water flows, and on the inside are several crutches, left as monuments by those who received the use of their limbs by this water. The rapidity of the stream, and the great quantity of water it discharges, have caused some persons to suspect that it is a subterraneous rivulet, which the miners might have turned to that channel ; it being their common practice, when they meet with currents under ground, to divert them to some swallow. And this is confirmed from an observation, that after much rain, the water often appears muddy ; and sometimes of a bluish colour, as if it had washed some lead mine, or proceeded from tobacco-pipe clay. To this it is added, that it seems to have happened, since the time of Giraldes, it not being likely, that so noble a fountain would have escaped his observation, had it then existed. However it appears, that it was not frequented by pilgrims at that time, nor at all celebrated for miraculous cures, or the memory of St. Beuno and Winefrid, tho' they lived about 500 years before Giraldus. Dr. Powel is of opinion, that the monks of Basingwerk, which is within half a mile of this place, for their own private ends, first broached these fabulous miracles. This abbey was not founded till about 100 years after Giraldus, before whose time, no writer takes notice of the romantic origin and miracles of this fountain. Holywell has a market on Fridays, and three fairs, on April 23, Tuesday after Trinity-Sunday, and September 2, for cattle.

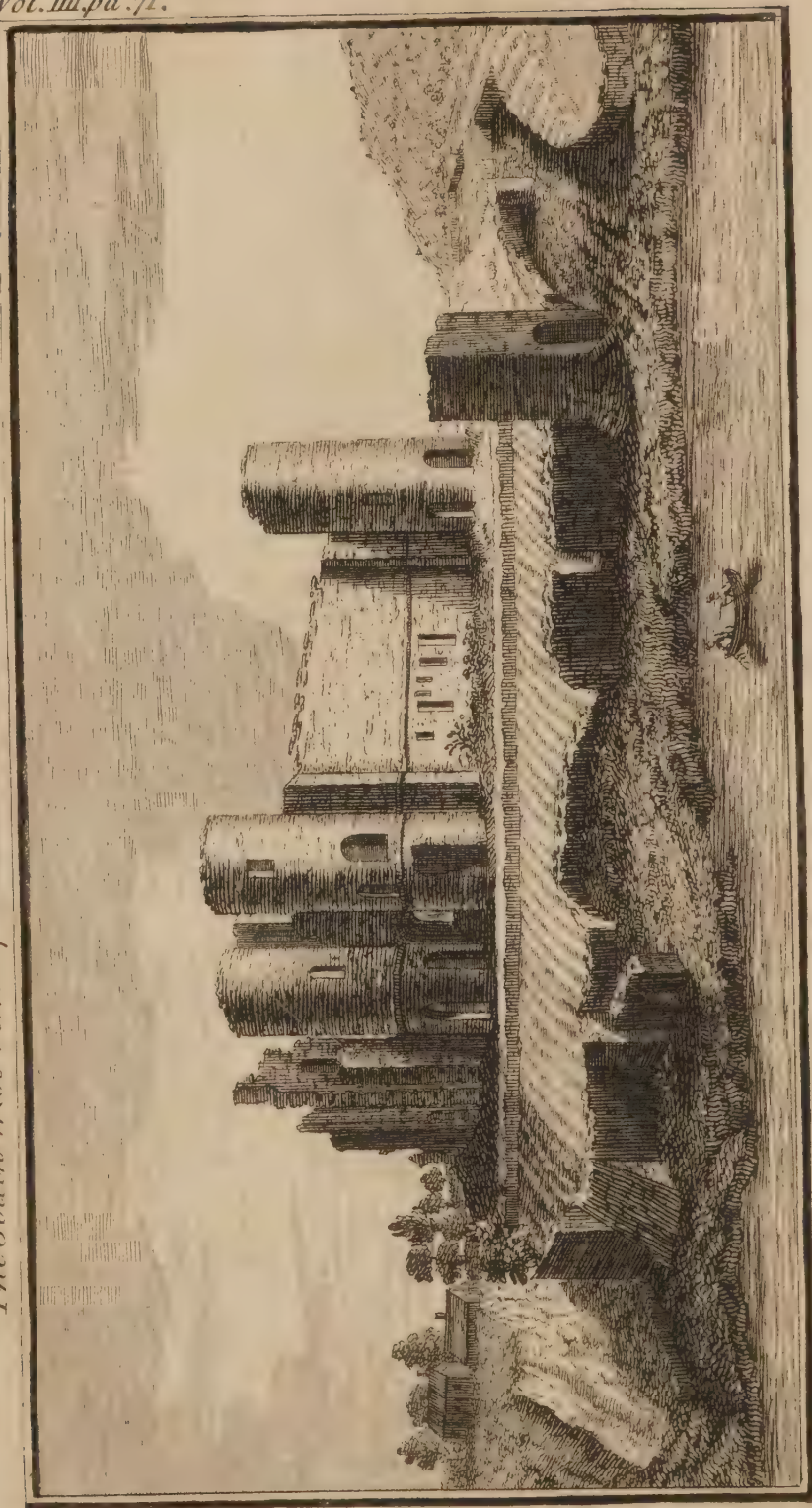
A little to the north of Holywell is **MOSLYN** mountain, on the most level part of which is a carved stone-pillar, eleven feet three inches in height above the pedestal, two feet four inches broad, and eleven inches thick. The pedestal is five feet long, four and a half broad, and about fourteen inches thick. The pillar is let through it, and reaches about five inches below the bottom; so that its whole length is about thirteen feet. When this monument was erected, or by what nation, it is hard to say; but some think it is a work of the Danes; and Dr. Plot, in his history of Staffordshire, gives us the draughts of a monument or two, which agree very well with it in the chequered carving. There is another very like it, at Beau Castle in Cumberland, inscribed with Runic characters, which is presumed to have been a funeral monument. But the characters on the east side of this, are nothing like the Runic, nor any letters hitherto taken notice of.

Within a furlong or less of this monument, is an artificial mount or barrow, and there are about twenty more in this neighbourhood, where there have been formerly discovered a great many bones; for which reason, this pillar has been supposed to be a monument of some signal victory; and the rather, because, upon digging five or six feet under it, no bones were discovered, nor any thing else that might occasion it to be thought sepulchral.

Near Holywell is **BASINGWERK**, a village where Ralph earl of Chester, about the year 1131, founded a monastery, which was probably much improved, and converted into an abbey of Cistercian monks, by king Henry the Second, in 1159. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and at the time of the dissolution, its revenues were valued, by Dugdale, at 150*l.* a year, but at 158*l.* by Speed.



The South West View of Rhudland Castle, in the County of Flint.



Part of it is in ruins, but one end seems to be pretty entire, and over it is fixed a large cross.

From Holywell the road runs westward to RHUDLAND, which is situated at the mouth of the river Clwyd, near eleven miles west of Holywell, and received its name from the reddish colour of the bank of the river on which it is seated. It had a very handsome castle built by Llwellyn, ap Sitfilht, prince of Wales, before the Norman conquest, and was his chief palace, but it was burnt by Harold, the son of earl Godwin, in the year 1063. Robert de Rhudland, nephew and captain lieutenant to the earl of Chester, in the year 1098, took it from the Welsh, and fortified it with some additional works. Henry the Second afterwards repaired it, and bestowed it on Hugh Beauchamp. The English parliament was held here, in the reign of Edward the First, and the statute of Rhudland is still in force. In the twenty-first year of that king, John Roman was in full parliament condemned for excommunicating the bishop of Durham, while he was in the king's service. However, on his submission, he was fined 4000 marks to the king, and this fine, according to tradition, was given towards repairing the castle. Kind Edward the Second kept three christmases here, and it now belongs to the crown. Great part of the walls are still standing, upon an eminence near the river. The reader will entertain a more perfect idea of the ruins of this structure, by viewing the plate we have given of them, than by any verbal description. Besides this structure, there was a priory of that name, which stands between St. Asaph and the sea, on the eastern bank of the river Clwyd, which is now in the possession of Robert Davies, Esq; It is not very far from the castle, and most of the walls are still standing; but it is put to no manner of use.

Rhudland

Rhudland is now but a mean village, though it was formerly a considerable town; for there is a gate at least half a mile from the village. One of the towers in the castle is called *Twr y Brenin*, that is, the king's tower; below the hill, on the bank of a river, we find another, apart from the castle, called *Twrhlod*. *Offa*, king of Mercia, and *Meredyth*, king of Dyvid, died at the battle fought at Rhudland, in the year 794. It has no market, but has still three fairs, held on the 2d of February, the 25th of March, and the 8th of September, all for cattle.

Below the castle, the river *Clwyd* falls into the sea; and tho' the valley at the mouth of the river seems lower than the sea itself, yet it has never been overflowed. Hence the shore descends gradually to the eastward.

Two miles south-east of Rhudland is *ST. ASAPH*, which derives its name from *St. Asaph*, its patron saint, who was the second bishop of that see, and is called by the Welsh *Lhan-Elwy*, from its situation at the influx of the river *Elwy*, into the *Clwyd*. It stands in the rich and pleasant vale of *Clwyd*, seventeen miles west by south of *Chester*, and 212 north-west of *London*; but is at present more famous for its antiquity than either its largeness or beauty, it having but few good houses. It was first founded by *Kantegarn*, bishop of *Glasgow* in Scotland, who being driven out of that kingdom, about the middle of the sixth century, founded here an episcopal seat and monastery; and became the first bishop of this see: but returning soon after into Scotland, he appointed *St. Asaph* his successor. There is no account of this monastery from the death of *St. Asaph*, in 596, and indeed but very little of the bishops, till the year 1143. We however find, that the church was burnt by *Owen Glandower* about the year

1402, but it was afterwards rebuilt by bishop Redwan, in the reigns of Edward the Fourth, and Henry the Seventh, and by the bishops David Owen and Henry Standish, in the reign of Henry the Eighth. The church is erected in the form of a cross, and is 170 feet in length; and over it is a plain tower ninety-three feet high, standing on four pillars. This town has a market on Saturdays, and four fairs, namely, on Easter-Tuesday, the 5th of July, the 16th of October, and the 26th of December, all for cattle.

On the confines of this county and Denbighshire, where the mountains by a gentle declivity seem to retire, and afford an easier pass into the vale, Camden is of opinion, the Romans built a small city called Varis, which Antoninus places nineteen miles from Conovium. This he thinks is farther confirmed by its being now called Bod-Vari, which signifies the mansion of Varus; and there are the ruins of a city on a small hill adjoining, called Moel y gaer, that is, the city hill. But the Annotator, though he does not deny, that Varis may be seated at Bod-Vari, yet he thinks Moel y gaer is but a slender confirmation of it. However it is certain, that place receives its name from the fortifications or entrenchments that are yet to be seen there; for the word Gaer or Caer, signifies strictly only a wall, fortress or enclosure. This being prefixed to the names of Roman towns, because they were fortified, has occasioned many to suppose, the genuine signification thereof to be a town or city. This fortification is exactly round, and 160 paces in diameter; all round it, the earth is raised in the manner of a parapet; and almost opposite to the avenue, there is a kind of tumulus, or artificial mount.

At this Moel y gaer Howel Gwynedd, who sided with Owen Glindower, against Henry the

Fourth, was beheaded. He was one who, for a long time, annoyed the English in his neighbourhood; but being at length taken by his enemies of the town of Flint and beheaded at this place, his estate was disposed of to one Saxton.

On the east side of the river Dee is a small part of Flintshire encompassed by Cheshire, Shropshire, and Denbighshire, in which there are about four or five parishes, the principal is that of Hanmer, which extends about four miles in length, and near the same in breadth, and is divided into six townships. In this parish the face of the country is generally level, and the soil in some parts a deep clay, and in others dry and sandy. The land is manured with lime and marle, and produces wheat, barley, oats, peas, and beans, and considerable quantities of cheese are made there. The inhabitants burn coal and turf, and the latter is dug up here in great abundance. The church, which is in the diocese of Chester, is dedicated to St. Chad, bishop of Litchfield. It consists of a nave, a chancel, and two side isles. At the west end is a tower, with a clock and four bells, and there is no chapel of ease in the parish. The principal seats is Hanmer-hall and Redhall, both belonging to the family of the Hanmers. On the west side of the church is a school, endowed with about 12*l.* per annum, where the poor children of the parish are taught gratis. This parish belonged to the late Sir Thomas Hanmer, who was near thirty years knight of the shire for the counties of Suffolk and Flint, or for the borough of Thetford. In this venerable assembly he was soon distinguished, and his powerful elocution and unbiassed integrity drew the attention of all parties. On the twelfth of queen Anne, in the year 1713, he was unanimously chosen speaker of the House of Commons; which office, at that time

time more particularly difficult, he discharged with becoming dignity, and declined all other honours and emoluments. At length withdrawing himself from public business, he prepared an elegant and correct edition of the dramatic works of Shakespeare, of which he made a present to the university of Oxford, where it was printed in quarto, with elegant engravings by Gravelot, at the expence of Sir Thomas, who died at his seat in Suffolk in the year 1746, and was interred in the above church, where a monument was erected to his memory.



GLAMORGANSHIRE.

T
 HIS county received its name from a contraction of the Welch words Gwlad Morgan, or the county of Morgan, and is supposed to have been thus called from a prince of this part of the country, said to have been killed 800 years before the birth of our Saviour ; but some other writers derive the name from the word Mor, which, in the British tongue, signifies the sea, this being a maritime county. It is bounded on the south, and part of the west, by Bristol channel ; on the north-west by Caermarthenshire ; on the north by Brecknockshire ; and on the east by Monmouthshire ; it extending forty-eight miles in length from east to west, twenty-seven in breadth from north to south, and 116 in circumference : Neath, a market town nearly in the centre of the county, is situated 168 miles west of London.

The air, in the south part of Glamorganshire, towards the sea, is temperate and healthful ; but the northern part, which is mountainous, is cold and piercing, full of thick woods, extremely barren, and thin of inhabitants ; but the mountains serve to feed herds of cattle, and send forth streams, which add greatly to the fertility of the other parts of the county. Indeed, between the mountains, there are some fertile vallies, which afford good pasture ; for the level part being more capable of cultivation, produces remarkably sweet grass, and pretty large crops of corn. The mountains yield

coals

coals and lead-ore ; and the south part is so fertile, pleasant and populous, that it is frequently called the Garden of Wales.

About Cowbridge and Bridgend, in this county, the husbandry is extremely imperfect, and entirely contrary to the most common ideas in more informed counties. Some farmers keep two, three, and four hundred sheep, and yet are so ignorant as never to fold them ; about Bridgend are many farms which consist of a very light sand, especially near Cantillon, and yet no turneps are sown. A gentleman farmer, who is at the same time a man of taste, and an excellent author, observes, that a farmer from England, in the latter parish, sowed two acres, and was at great pains to hoe them well, and keep them clean, but was greatly ridiculed by his ignorant neighbours, who really thought him mad, but were surprized at the quantity he gained, which he sold by the sack to all the neighbouring towns to vast profit.

The present husbandry is this ; they fallow and lime, which is done very cheap ; the quantity they lay upon a customary acre, which is eighteen feet to the perch, is four or five curnocks, as they term them, each twelve hoops, and each hoop three pecks, consequently 450 bushels on an acre, which they burn on their lands so cheap as one shilling and two-pence a curnock ; others, who purchase it, pay two shillings and six-pence or three shillings. They generally give three ploughings for wheat, sow three bushels on an acre, and reckon a middling crop from twenty-five to thirty bushels. For barley they plough twice or thrice more, and think twenty-five bushels a middling crop : of beans fifteen bushels, but they never hoe them : for oats they never plough but once, and for peas twice. Sometimes they sow clover, and feed their

hogs with it. They here employ oxen for most of the purposes of draught and tillage.

Few counties have a more advantageous situation than Glamorganshire, for it lies along the Bristol channel, and has many little ports, by which means the inhabitants have a ready market at Bristol for every thing, and on the western side, about Neath and Swansea, lies their vast copper, lead, and tin-works, in which above five hundred hands are employed, which necessarily occasions a great consumption. These works were established on account of the cheapness of coals and labour, for the copper and tin are brought over from Cornwall.

The principal rivers of Glamorganshire are the Rhymny, the Taff, the Ogmore, the Avon, the Neath, and the Tavey. The Rhymny, or Remney, rises on the borders of Brecknockshire, and running south-south-east, separates this county from Monmouthshire, and then falls into the mouth of the Severn, to the east of Cardiff. The Taff has its source in Brecknockshire, south of Brecknock, and running south-east by Llandaff and Cardiff, falls into the mouth of the Severn, a mile or two south-west of the mouth of the Rhymny. The Ogmore rises on the borders of Brecknockshire, and taking its course to the south, falls into Bristol channel. The Avon rises a little to the south-west of the source of the Ogmore, and after winding to the west, turns south-east, and falls into the Severn sea at Aberavon. The Neath, or Cledaugh, rises in Brecknockshire, and running south-west, falls into the east part of Swansea bay. The Tavey rises at the foot of the Black mountain in Brecknockshire, and running south-west, passes by Swansea, and discharges itself into Swansea bay.

The more inconsiderable rivers of this county are

are the Elay, the Eweny, the Hepsey, the Melta, the Trawgath, the Dulishe, and the Turch.

GLAMORGANSHIRE has but one mineral spring, and that is at Swansey. This spring has an acid stiptic taste like alum, though the predominant salt is a martial vitriol. It turns blue with vinegar, and will not curdle with milk. A gallon of this water yields forty grains of sediment, of a highly acid, stiptic, vitriolic taste, and a light brown colour, which will ferment with spirit of hartshorn, and oil of tartar. It is good in loosenesses, and will staunch blood externally in wounds.

At Newton, north-west of the mouth of the Ogmore, is a very remarkable spring, about eighteen feet in circumference, the water of which sinks at high tide nearly to the bottom; and at the ebbing of the sea it rises almost to the brim. In order to account for this phenomenon, it has been supposed, that at high water the air in the veins of the spring, not being at liberty to circulate, by its being pent up, the water is prevented from issuing out; but when the sea retires from the shore, and frees these natural aqueducts from these obstructions, the water is at liberty to issue thro' them.

Another curiosity of this county is in a promontory near Penrife, the most westerly point of Glamorganshire, called Warmthead-Point; it runs about a mile into the sea, and at half flood, the isthmus, which joins it to the main-land, is overflowed, so that it is rendered a small island. Near the extremity of this point, is a cleft or crevice in the ground, into which if dust or sand be thrown, it will be blown back again into the air; and if a person applies his ear to the crevice, he will plainly hear a deep noise, like the blowing of a large pair of bellows. These phenomena are attributed to the undulatory motion of the sea, under the arched and rocky hollow of the

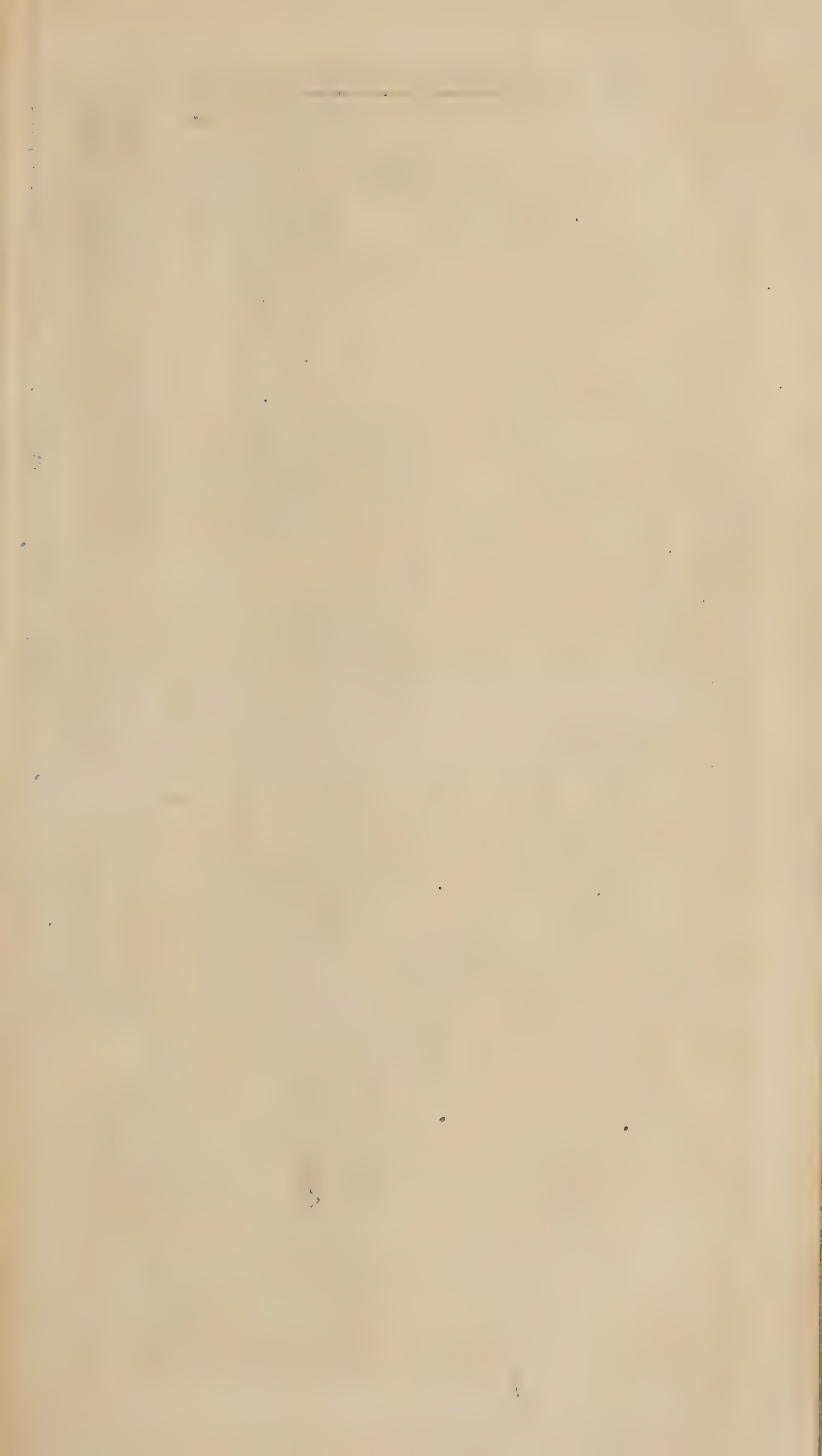
promontory, which occasions an alternate inspiration and expiration of the air, through the cleft.

This county, in the time of the Romans, was part of the district inhabited by the Silures, and had several Roman stations. Thus Boverton, a few miles to the south of Cowbridge, is supposed to be the Bovium of Antoninus; Neath to be his Nidum, and Loghor, to the west of Swansea, to be his Leucarum.

This county, which lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the diocese of St. David's, and partly in that of Llandaff, is divided into ten hundreds, in which are contained one city, five market towns, eighteen parishes, about 9640 houses, and 57,480 inhabitants.

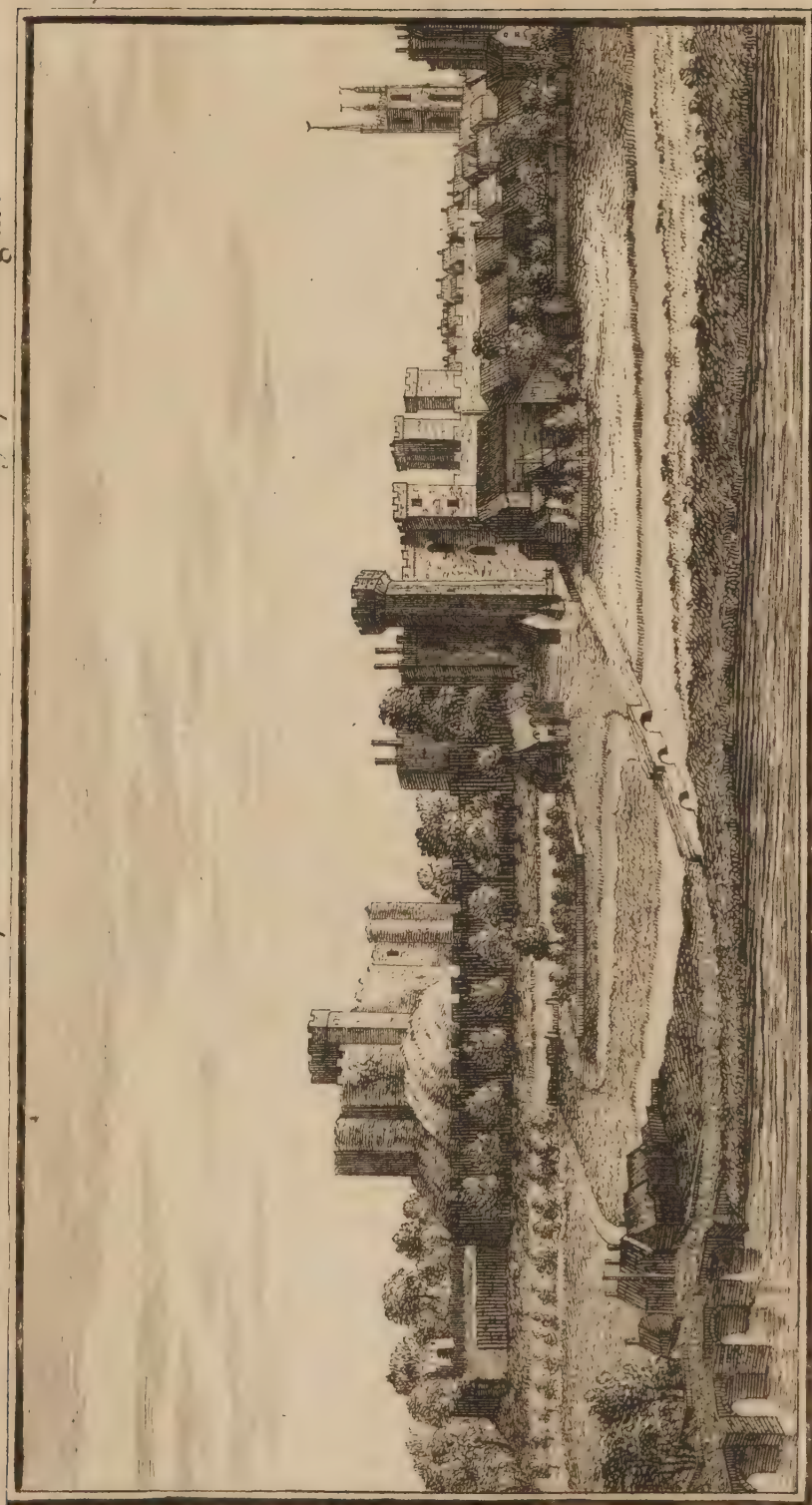
We shall begin the description of this county by entering it by the road, which leads from Gloucester.

CARDIFF, or CAERDIFF, the first town on the south-east of the county, is thirty-six miles south-west of Monmouth, and 163 west of London. Its name signifies a city on the Taff, it being thus called from its situation on that river. It is a pretty large well built town, esteemed the handsomest in all South Wales. It is seated in a rich and fertile soil, proper for corn and pasture; the ground about it is level; but at the distance of three or four miles, it is surrounded with pleasant hills, that yield a delightful prospect. There is a handsome bridge over the river Taff, to which vessels of small burthen may come up; and a commodious harbour, by which the inhabitants carry on a good trade to Bristol, and other places. The houses are well built, and the streets clean and in good order. The town consists of two parishes, though at present it has but one church; for the other, above a hundred years ago, was undermined by the river, and the greatest part of it fell down. It is enclosed by a wall, which has four gates,



The North West View of Cardiff Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.

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gates, and has a castle, which is a large, strong, stately edifice, the constable of which is always the first magistrate of the town.

This castle, together with the walls, was built by Robert Fitz Haimon, a Norman, about the year 1100, who held here his courts of justice, and kept a strong garrison, his twelve peers or knights being obliged to defend their several stations. In this castle Robert Curthose, eldest son of William the Conqueror, was imprisoned by his brothers till his old age, having first been deprived of his eyes, as well as of his hopes of the crown. It was taken by Maelgon, and Rhys Gryg, with prince Llewellyn's forces, in 1131. It is now a lordship, belonging to the right honourable the lord viscount Windsor.

The town is an ancient corporation, governed by a constable, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, twelve capital burghesses, a steward, a town-clerk, and other officers. This being the county-town, a court of record is held here every fortnight, of which the bailiffs, who are also justices of the peace, are the only judges; and the assizes for the county are always held here.

Without the east gate is a large suburb, called Crockerton; where was a house of Grey Friars dedicated to St. Francis. Without the north gate stood the White Friars; and without the west gate is another small suburb, adjoining to which was a monastery of Black Friars. In this town, Robert, earl of Gloucester, who died in 1147, founded a priory. Cardiff has two markets, one on Wednesdays, and the other on Saturdays, but that on Saturdays is the best, and is well provided with corn, horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and all sorts of provisions. It has also three fairs, which are held on the 29th of June, the 8th of September, and the 30th of November, for cattle.

Eight miles to the north of Caerdiff, in a moorish bottom, not far from the river Rhymny, where it runs through places scarce passable among the hills, is seated the ancient borough of CAERPHYLY, which has a market on Thursdays, and seven fairs, held on April 5, June 6, July 19, Aug. 25, Oct. 9, Nov. 16, and the Thursday before Christmas, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, and yarn stockings. Besides the first Thursday in March, and the first Thursday in May called Great Markets.

This place is only remarkable for its ruinous castle, thought to be the noblest remains of ancient architecture now in Great-Britain; for in the judgment of some curious persons, who have seen and compared it with the most famous castles of this kingdom, it exceeds all in bigness, except that of Windsor. The hall, or as some people think it the chapel, is a stately room, about seventy feet in length, thirty-four in breadth, and seventeen in height. On the south side is an ascent to it, by a stair-case, about eight feet wide, the roof of which is vaulted, and supported by twenty arches, which, as you ascend, rise gradually one above another. The entrance into the room from this stair-case is not in the middle, but somewhat nearer to the west end. Opposite to the stair-case, on the north side of the room, is a chimney about ten feet wide, on each side of which are two windows resembling those of churches, only they are continued down to the very floor, and rise higher than the hall is supposed to have done; so that the room above the hall was enlightened by them. The sides of these windows are adorned with sculpture of leaves and fruit. In the walls, on each side of the room, are seven triangular pillars placed at equal distances. From the floor to the bottom of the pillars, is about twelve feet and a half. Each of these pillars is supported by three busts, which vary alternately:

nately : for the first is supported by the head and breast of an ancient man, who has a beard, with two young men on each side, all with dishevelled hair. The next has the face and breasts of a woman, with a lesser face also on each side ; the middlemost, or biggest, has a cloth tied close under the chin, and about the forehead : the smaller figures have folded cloths, but none under the chin, and all have braided locks. The use of these pillars seems to have been to support the beams : there are also, on the south side, six grooves or channels in the wall, at equal distances ; these are about nine inches wide, eight or nine feet high ; and four are continued from the tops of the pillars ; but the two middlemost are about the middle space between the pillars, and come down lower than the rest, having neat stones jetting out at the bottom, as if intended to support somewhat placed in the hollow grooves. At the north side, near the east end, there is a door about eight feet high, which leads into a spacious green, about seventy yards long, and forty broad. At the east end there are two large arched doors, within a yard of each other ; and there was a third near the south side, but much larger ; and another opposite to that on the west end. This was the state of this room, at the time of the first edition of Gibson's Camden ; and the annotator was so very particular, that he might enable persons to judge of the antiquity of the place, which, as far as he could meet with information, is beyond the reach of history.

Among the many stupendous pieces, of which this vast pile of ruins is composed, is a large tower nearly towards the east end, which every moment threatens destruction to the unwary passenger. Its height is not by a great deal so much as that of Pisa, in Italy, it being not above 70 or 80 feet at most ;

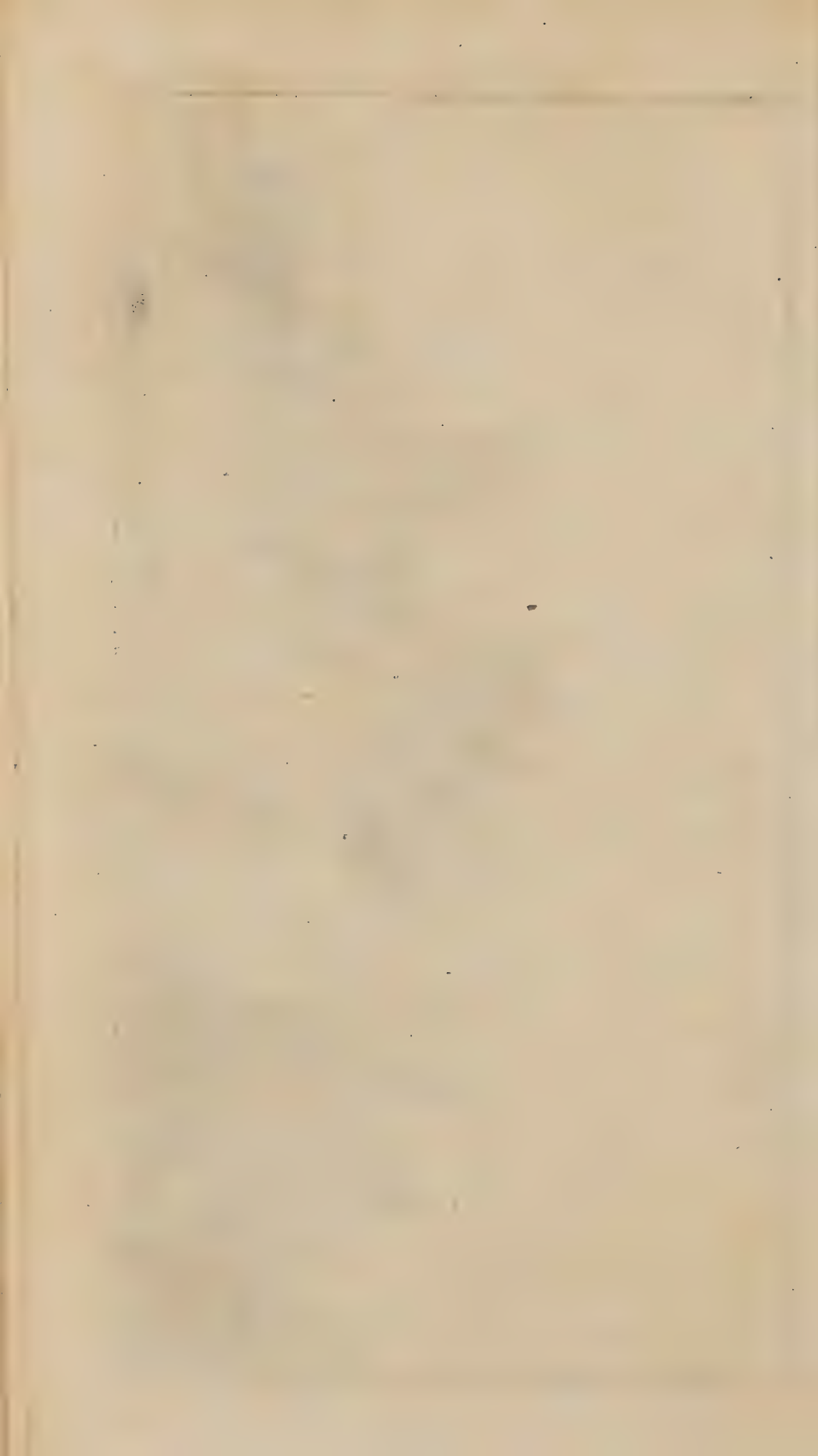
most ; but from the top down almost to the middle, runs a large fissure, by which the tower is divided into two separate parts, so that each side hangs over its base, in such a manner, that it is difficult to say which is most likely to fall first. According to the opinion of the ingenious Mr. Wood of Bath, who lay upon his back for several minutes to view this dreadful ruin, its lineal projection, on the outer side, is not less than ten feet and a half. What renders it still the more remarkable is, that it has continued to project in this manner for many ages past ; nor have we the least account given us, either from history or tradition, how it first happened.

This castle, of which we have given an engraved view, representing its present state, is generally thought to have been originally built by the Romans, though it does not seem to have any resemblance to their style of architecture ; and besides, almost all the Roman cities, or forts, afford either Roman inscriptions, statues, bricks, coins, arms, or other utensils ; but it does not appear that any such things were ever discovered here. There have indeed been two coins found in this castle, one of which was silver, and the other brass ; but neither of them are either Roman or English, and therefore are probably Welch. That of silver is as broad, but thinner than a six-pence, and exhibits on one side the image of our Saviour, with a Latin inscription, which signifies, Glory be to thee. On the other side the legend probably means, the money of the country of Gwynedh, that is, North Wales. The brass coin is like the French pieces of the middle age.

On a mountain not far from Caerphyly, is a remarkable monument, known by the name of Y MAEN HIR ; this is a rude stone pillar, of a kind of quadrangular form, about eight feet high. It
is



The South East View of Caerphilly Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.



is not erect, but somewhat inclining, and close to its bottom, there is a small bank or intrenchment, inclosing the space of six yards, and in the midst of it is a square area. There is an inscription on the pillar in Welsh, which signifies, Mayst thou awake; from whence it is thought to be a funeral monument.

MORLASHE Castle is seated on the north-east edge of this county. fifteen miles north of Caerphilly, and not far from the road, which leads from Brecknock to Cardiff. This castle is now the property of the Lewis family, and by its ruins appears to have been a very strong place.

Turning back by the same road to Caerdiff, and proceeding two miles to the north-west of that town, you come to LLANDAFF, which signifies a church on the river Taff. This is a small place, seated in a bottom, 164 miles west of London, but is dignified with a bishop's see, and adorned with a cathedral, which is a fine structure. It was made a bishop's see about the year 490, by St. Jubricius, who was succeeded by St. Tilliau, to whom the church is dedicated. Bishop Urban, about the year 1120, rebuilt the church, with two towers at the west end, eighty-nine feet high, of which that at the south now remains, though two of its pinnacles were thrown down by the storm in 1703. The north tower was pulled down and rebuilt in an elegant manner, 105 feet high, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, at the expence of Jasper, duke of Bedford, but the pinnacles and battlements were demolished by the above-mentioned storm. The body of the cathedral has been lately rebuilt, and is 263 feet and a half in length from east to west: the distance from the west door to the choir is 110 feet: the length from the choir door to the altar is seventy-five feet; and the distance from thence to the farther

ther end of what is called St. Mary's chapel, is sixty-five feet. The body of this church is sixty-five feet broad; and the height from the floor to the top of the compass-work of the roof is also sixty-five feet; and to the top of the middle isle, above the pillars fifty-four feet. The choir is very neat; but in this church there is no cross isle, as there is in all the other cathedrals in England and Wales; nor is there any middle steeple, as there is in all the cathedrals besides, except Bangor and Exeter.

About three miles from the mouth of the river Taff, in the winding of the shore, is a small island called SCILLY; and about three miles to the west of it, the island of BARRY, so called from St. Baruch, who is said to have been interred there. These islands are extremely pleasant; and it is said, that in the last-mentioned island, there is a narrow chink of a rock, to which, if you put your ear, you may hear a noise as if smiths were at work, sometimes striking with hammers, sometimes blowing the bellows, and at others, grinding of tools and the like; but at present no such sounds are perceived, and probably never were, as we find no author who has asserted this upon his own knowledge.

Twelve miles west of Llandaff, and 175 from London, is COWBRIDGE, called by the Welch Pont-Van, from the stone-bridge over the river Ewenny, on which it is situated. It stands in a low bottom, in a fertile soil, and is a neat, clean, well built, and well paved town, where the justices keep their quarter sessions for the county the week after Easter. It is governed by a bailiff, sworn by the deputy constable of the castle of St. Quintin near adjoining, and has a well frequented market on Tuesdays, for corn, cattle and provisions; and
three

three fairs, on April 23, August 1, and October 18, for cattle.

About two miles south-west of Cowbridge is LLANBLYTHIAN Castle, which is very ancient. It fell to the share of Robert St. Quintin, one of the twelve knights who came along with Robert Fitz-Haimon into Glamorganshire about the year 1097. He fortified it, but it had been built long before. It came since into the possession of Sir William Herbert of Swansey, Knt. and is now the property of the right honourable the lord viscount Windsor. A great part of the walls are still standing, and it appears to have been built more for strength than beauty.

At LLANCARVAN, about three miles from Cowbridge, St. Cadocus is said to have built a monastery in the year 500.

And at EWENNY, which is also near Cowbridge, Sir John Londres built a Benedictine priory, which was given by Maurice de Londres in 1141, as a cell to Gloucester abbey. The time of its foundation is unknown; but it appears to have been dedicated to St. Michael, and valued, at the suppression of religious houses, at 78 l. a year.

At LANTWITT, a village, also at a small distance from Cowbridge, are the foundations of many buildings. This is said to have been an ancient, large borough town, that had a market kept on Sunday mornings, which is now discontinued, but it has still a fair on the 11th of June, for lambs. In the church yard of this village, and on the north side of the church, there are two stones erected, the first of which is near the church wall, of a pyramidal form, and about seven feet high. It is adorned with old British carving, and at three several places, at equal distances, is encompassed with three circles. These circular monuments

ments are supposed to have been temples of the Druids. This might have been thought such, did it not differ from the old monuments, with regard to the carving. The other stone is also very much carved, and was once the shaft or pedestal of a cross. On one side there is an inscription, showing that one Sampson set it up, and on another, that it was dedicated to St. Ilhtub.

Eight miles north-east of Cowbridge is LLANTRISSENT, which is seated in a hilly part of the country, and is an ancient borough, governed by a portrieve, who is sworn by the deputy constable of the castle. It has a small market on Fridays, and three fairs, held on the 1st of May, the 1st of August, and the 18th of October, all for cattle.

Five miles south-west of Cowbridge near Nashpoint, stands ST. DONAT's Castle, the habitation of the ancient family of the Stradlings, near which there are dug up several ancient Roman coins, among which were some of Æmilianus and Marius, which are very scarce. This is seated on an eminence, having a fine park to the west, and on the south pleasant gardens, descending in terraces from the castle wall, to the Severn sea. The first mention of it, made in history, is in the fifth of William Rufus, and in the year 1091, when Justin ap Gurgan, the British prince of Morgannwg, by the treachery of Enion ap Cadiver, lord of Dyvet, lost his life and territories, which were taken by the Normans. Their leader Fitz Haimon divided the country among the twelve knights, his associates in this expedition; when this castle fell to the share of Sir William Leigh Esterling, otherwife Stradling; and it has been their family seat 648 years. But they becoming extinct, it is now in the family of the Mansels. It is very large, and makes a very good appearance, though the different parts of the structure

are.



The North West View of S^t. Donats Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.

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are extremely antique Of this structure we have given a view.

At the distance of seven miles, north-west of Cowbridge, is BRIDGE-END, which is seated on the Ogmore. That river divides it into two parts, which are joined together by a stone bridge. It has a considerable market on Saturdays, for corn, cattle and provisions; and two fairs, the first on Holy-Thursday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horned cattle, sheep and hogs.

ABERAVON is a town on the road from Bridge-End to Neath, and is seated on the river Avon, about two miles from the sea. It is a borough town, about two furlongs in length, governed by a portrieve, but has neither market nor fair.

Four miles south-east of Aberavon is KYNFIG, where was formerly a castle belonging to Fitz-Haimon.

About two miles to the north-west is MORGAN, where Robert, earl of Gloucester, in the year 1147, founded an abbey for Cistercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was valued at the dissolution at 181 l. a year; but it is now a gentleman's seat.

On the top of a hill, called Mynydd-Margan, is a pillar of exceeding hard stone, about four feet high, and one broad, with the following inscription in a rude character, BODVOCVS HIC JACIT, FILIVS CATOTIS, IRNI PRONEPVS ETERNALI VE DOMAV, *i. e.* Pronepos eternali in domo. The common people in the neighbourhood affirm, that whoever reads the inscription will certainly die soon.

By the highway, south of Morgan, is a monument of stone, with this inscription: PVMPEIVS CARANTORIVS. This is doubtless the tombstone of one Pompeius Carantorius, though the Welsh, by adding and altering some letters, read it thus:

PVMP.

PVMP. BVS. CAR. A'N. TOPIVS. or, The five fingers of our friend Killedus. They call it Bedh Morgan Morganwg, which signifies the sepulchre of prince Morgan, and believe, that a prince named Morgan, who, they say, was killed 800 years before our Saviour's time, was buried here.

COYTY Castle is seated between the rivers Ogmore and Ewenny, three miles north of Bridge-End; and was given by Robert Fitz-Haimon, who conquered the country, to Sir Paine Turbeville, in the year 1091; and it is now in the possession of the family of the Edwins. The ruins, of which we have given a view, shew it to have been a very large and strong structure.

Eighteen miles north-west of Bridgend is NEATH, in Welsh *Nedh*, supposed by Camden to be the Nidum of Antoninus, and is now a place of some note, seated on a river of the same name, over which is a stone bridge, eight miles east by north of Swansea, thirty north-west of Llandaff, and 168 west by north of London. The castle here is very ancient, tho' we have no account when it was founded. It was, however, rebuilt about the year 1090 by Richard de Granville, one of the twelve Norman knights, who assisted Robert Fitz-Haimon in the conquest of this country; and it was afterwards burnt in the year 1231 by prince Llewellyn. It is situated near the river Neath, and is the castle of the burrough and manor of Neath, formerly a lordship marcher, and was lately in the possession of Herbert Mackworth, Esq; who has a pleasant seat, beautifully situated on an eminence near the said castle.

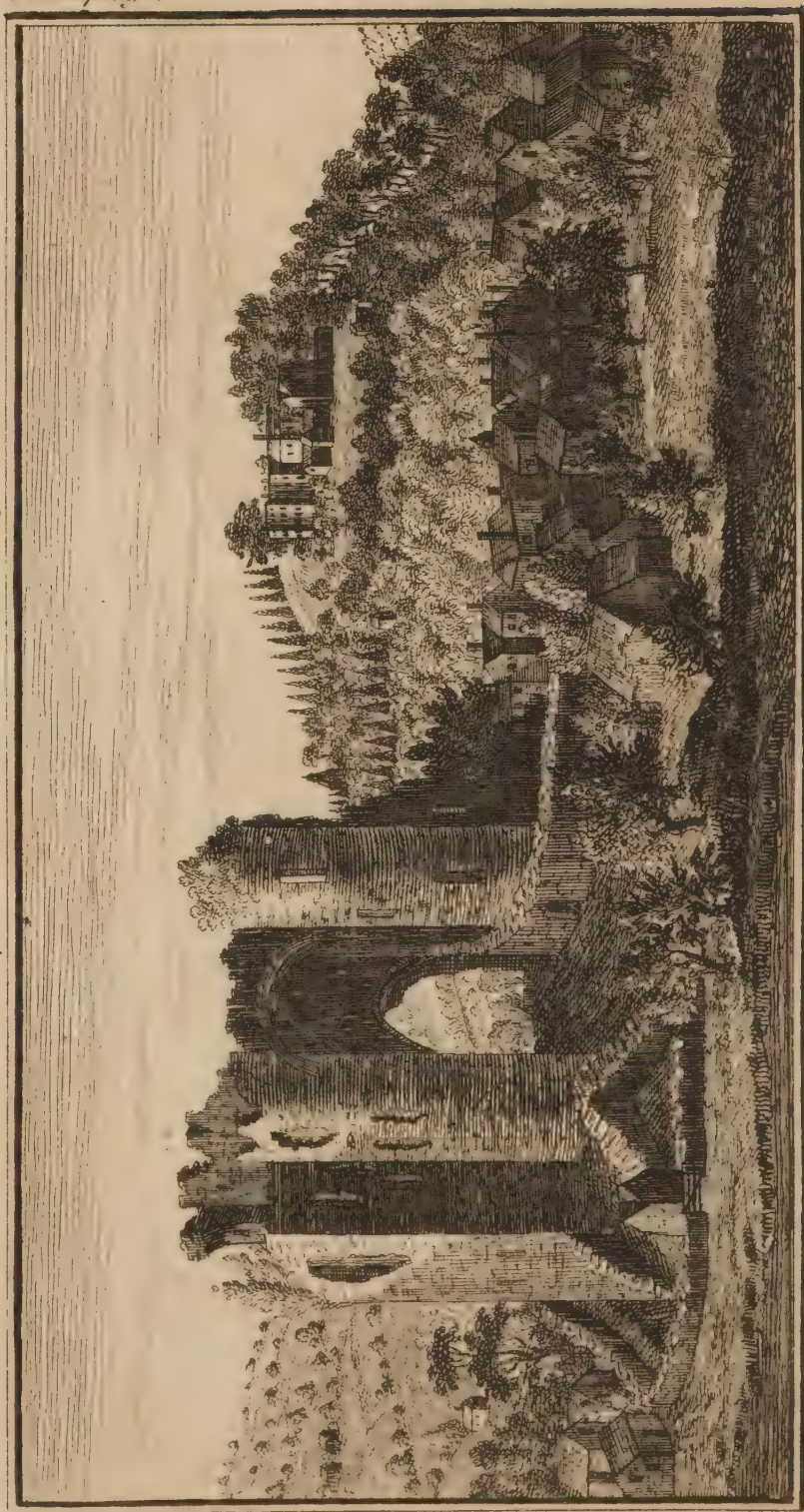
Neath was formerly a place of greater extent than it is at present, tho' it is still pretty large. It is governed by a portrieve, annually sworn by the deputy constable of the castle of Neath. Small vessels bring plenty of coals up to the bridge, to
the



The South View of Coyty Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.

The North West View of Neath Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.

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the great advantage of the inhabitants. The market is on Fridays; and there are three fairs, which are held on Trinity-Thursday, July 13, and September 12, for cattle, sheep and hogs. Here Richard de Granville, and Constance his wife, in the reign of Henry the First, built a Cistercian abbey on the river Neath, about half a mile from the town, and dedicated it to the Holy Trinity, and afterwards returned to England, where he had a plentiful estate. At the time of the dissolution, its yearly value, according to Dugdale, was 132 l. but according to Speed, 150 l. There are only the ruins of some lofty walls standing.

All the country from Neath to the river Locher, which is the western limit of the county, is called by the English GOWER, but by the Welsh *Gwir*. In the reign of Henry the First, the earl of Warwick subdued this country, which afterwards devolved to the crown. But king John bestowed it on William de Breos, whose family held it till the time of Edward the Second. It is now divided into east and west Gowerland.

The most noted town in this district is SWANSEY, or SWANZEY, which derives its name from Swine Sea, on account of the great number of porpoises, or sea-hogs, found in Swansey-bay; but it is called by the Welsh, *Aber Tawi*, from its situation at the mouth of the river Tavye, or Tawi. It is situated nine miles south-west of Neath, thirty-nine north-north-west of Cardigan, and 202 north by west of London. It is a large, clean, well built town, with an exceeding good harbour, where sometimes a hundred ships at a time come in for coals and culm. This last is the dust of the coal, which, when made up into balls, make a sweet and durable fire, with little smoke. Swansey carries on the greatest trade of
any

any town in the county, particularly in coals, there being several large coal-pits in the neighbourhood; and from this place coals are sent both to Ireland, and to all the port-towns of Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somersetshire, which renders the inhabitants of the town and its neighbourhood rich and populous. It has two markets, held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and five fairs, namely, on July 13, August 29, October 19, and on the two following Saturdays.

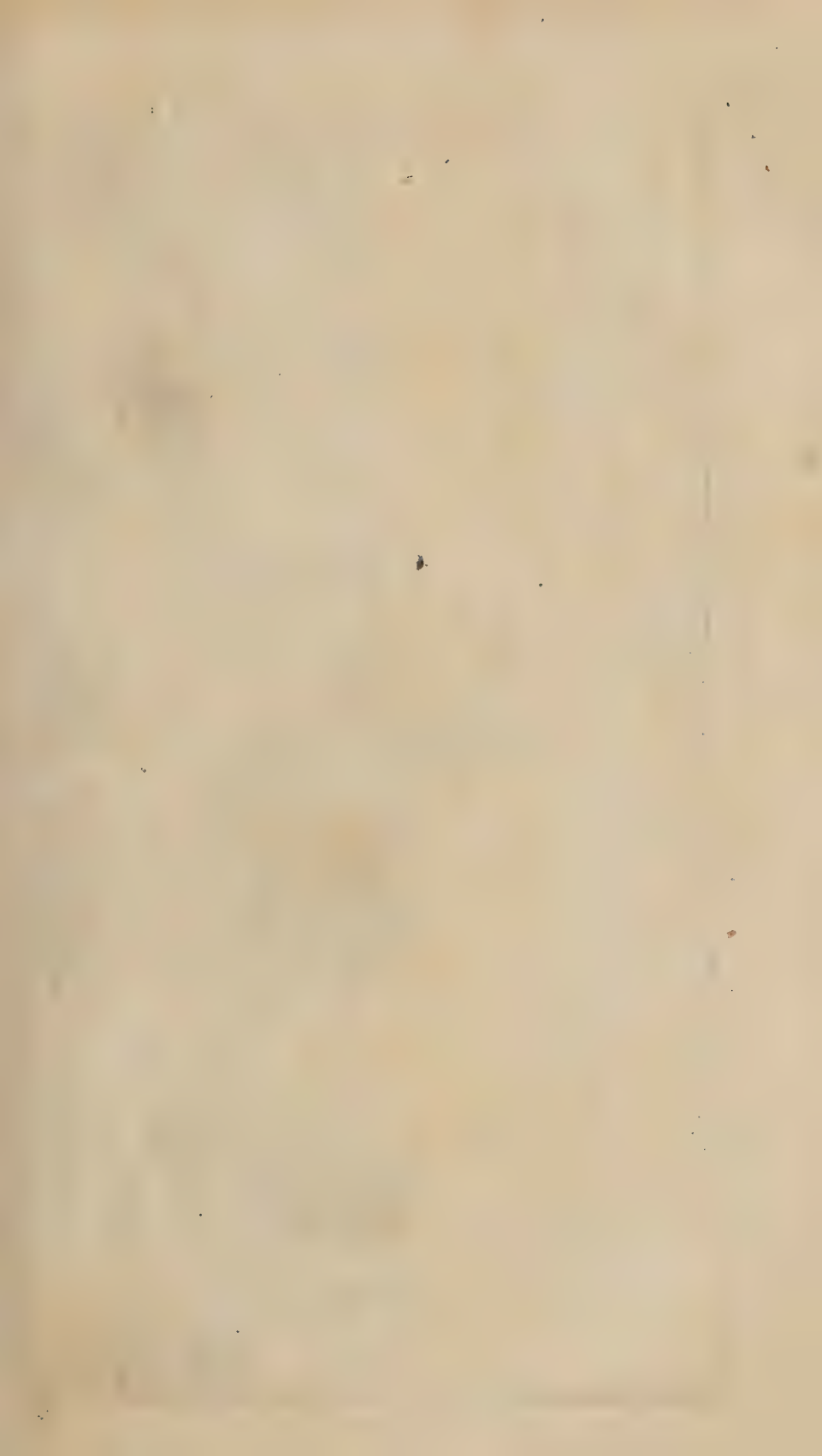
Swansey Castle was built by Henry Beaumont, earl of Warwick, about the year 1113; soon after which, Griffith ap Rhys ap Theodore, prince of South-Wales, came before it, and burnt down great part of the out buildings. It is the property of his grace the duke of Beaufort, lord paramount of Gowerland. Of this castle we have given a view. Part of it seems pretty entire, but one end of it is in ruins.

OYSTERMOUTH Castle, is finely situated on an eminence near the sea, five miles south by west of Swansea, and has, with the lordship thereunto belonging, been almost constantly the property of the lords of Gower; the first of which lords were the Beaumonts, earls of Warwick; and by them it was conveyed to the crown. King John gave it to the Breoses, lords of Brecon: from them it came by marriage to the noble family of the Mowbrays: from thence to the Herberts, and by marriage of an heiress to the noble family of the Somersets, in which it is now vested in the person of his grace the duke of Beaufort. Some of the walls are still standing, which shew that it has been a place of great strength; and of these we have given a view.

PENNARTH Castle is seated in Oxwich bay, eight miles south-west of Swansea, and has, with
the

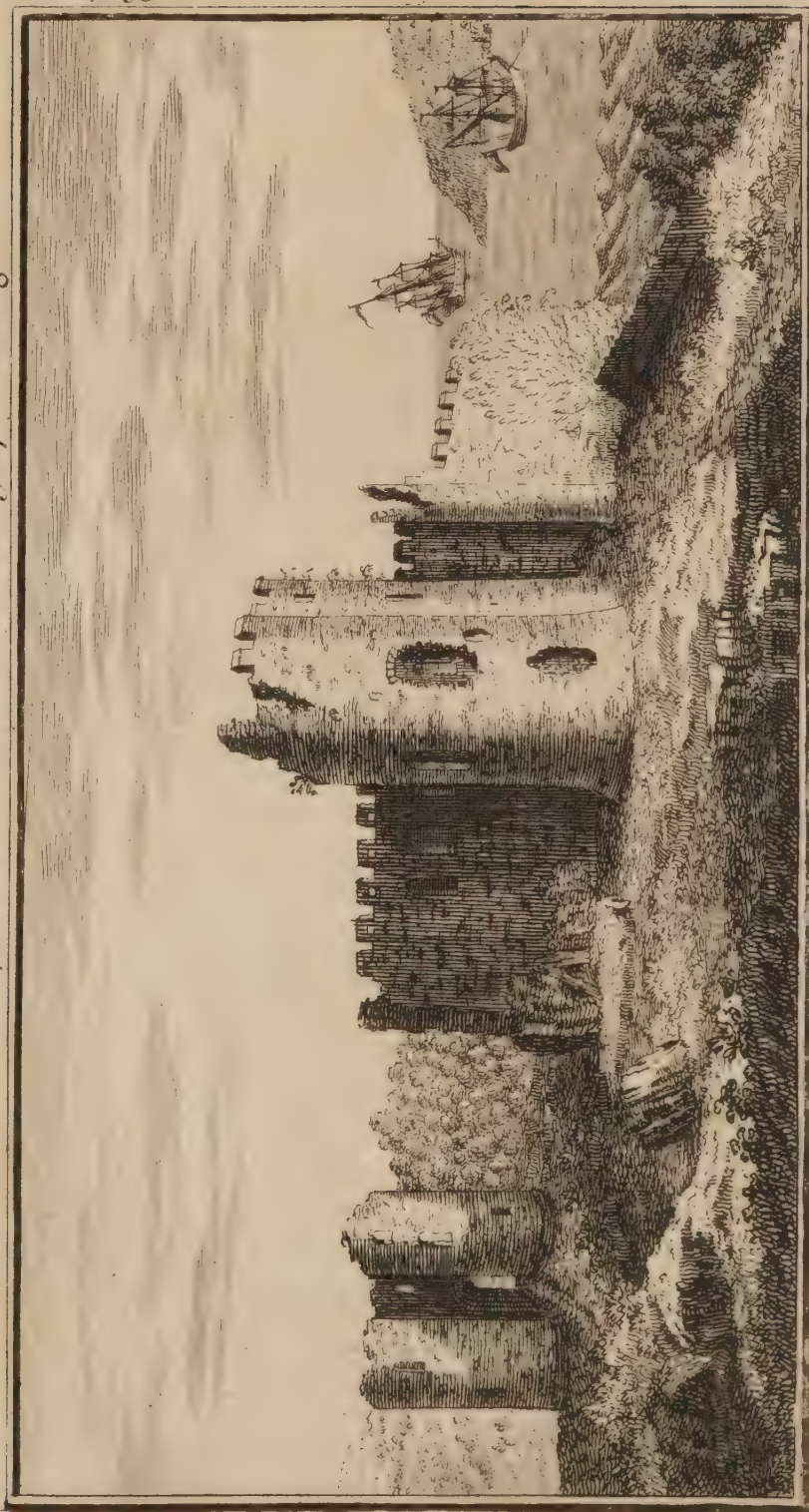


The East View of Swansea Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.



The North West View of Penrice Castle, in the County of Glamorgan.

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the lordship belonging thereto, always been in possession of the lords of Gower, and now belongs to the duke of Beaufort. It was designed for a place of strength, as appears from the walls, most of which are still standing.

PENRISE, or PENRYSE, is situated near the west side of Oxwich-bay, twelve miles west by south of Swansea; and has a market on Thursdays, with four fairs, which are held on May 17, July 17, September 17, and December 1, for cattle, sheep, and hogs. The castle takes its name from the family of Pentrise, who first made it their seat. It came to the Mansels by the marriage of Isabel, daughter and heiress to Sir John Penrise, knight, who descended from Phillip, who attended William the Conqueror into England; and whose posterity settled in this county in the time of king Edward the First. It is now the property of the right honourable the lord Mansel of Margam. It has been a strong place, as appears from the remains, which are considerable, and of which we have given a view. Indeed it appears to be a handsomer structure than several other castles in these parts.

On a mountain, called Kevn-Bryn, about two or three miles to the north of Penrise, is a monument, consisting of a rude stone of a prodigious size, called Arthur's Stone, supposed to weigh upwards of twenty tons, and yet is supported by a circle of six or seven other stones, each about four feet high. These are all of the mill-stone kind.


WEBLY Castle is seated on an eminence by Wormshead point, in West Gowerland, eighteen miles west of Swansea; this is a compact structure, that seems to be entirely built for strength; the

the greater part of it, if not all, is still standing, and now belongs to the lord Mansel.

LLWGHOR is a town on the borders of Caermarthenshire, and was formerly a considerable place, fortified by a castle, which is now in ruins. It is governed by a portrieve, and is thought, by Camden, to be the Leucarum of Antoninus; but it has at present neither market nor fair.



GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

 LOUCESTERSHIRE, or GLOUCESTERSHIRE, obtained its name from the city of Gloucester, the *Colonia Glevum* of the Romans, and is bounded on the north by Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and part of Herefordshire; on the east by Warwickshire and Oxfordshire; on the south by Wiltshire and Somersetshire; and on the west by Monmouthshire and Herefordshire; it extending about fifty-six miles in length from the north-east to the south-west, and about twenty-two in breadth from the north-west to the south-east, and 156 in circumference. The city of Gloucester, which is nearly in the centre, is 102 miles north-west of London.

The Romans, soon after they settled in Briton, took possession of these parts, and called the people *Dobuni*. The Saxons, who have succeeded the Romans, named the inhabitants about the Severn *Wiccwi*, from the Saxon word *Wic*, which signifies the creek of a river; but soon after, this county was called Gloucestershire, as we have already observed, from the old Latin word *Glevum*, to which they added *cester*.

During the Saxon heptarchy, this county was long subject to the West Saxons, but was afterwards included in the kingdom of Mercia, whose king usually resided at Tamworth in Staffordshire. Under the English monarchs, it was miserably harassed by the Danes, whose general was Gurman.

man. This county also suffered much in the civil wars, between queen Maud and king Stephen. In the reign of king Henry the Second, they were much harrassed by the incursions of the Welch ; and in the barons wars they sided with the barons.

The air of this county is in every part of it extremely healthful, though in other respects very different ; for that part called Cotswold, being a hilly country, has a very sharp and piercing air, while that in the lower lands, called the Vale, is soft and mild, even in winter. Indeed, such is the difference, that the inhabitants here say, that in Cotswold, eight months in the year are winter, and the other four, too cold for summer ; but that in the Vale, eight months are summer, and the other four too warm for winter. The soil is, in general, extremely fertile, and capable of producing all sorts of corn, with all the fruits proper for the climate ; for here, even the highways abound with fruit-trees, which grow in the hedges ; and formerly there were plenty of vineyards, whose grapes were extremely good ; and some have asserted, that the wine made of them was little inferior to that of France.

The principal rivers of this county are the Severn, the Wye, the Stroud, and the two Avons. The word Severn, is doubtless a corruption of Sabrina, the name given to this river by the Romans. The Severn, which is generally esteemed the second river in England, rises on the east side of a high mountain called Plyn Lymmon, in the south-west part of Montgomeryshire ; from whence, by various windings, it runs north-east, and enters Shropshire, where, being joined by many smaller streams, it runs south-east thro' that county and Worcestershire. It enters Gloucestershire at Tewksbury, whence, running south-west, by the city of Gloucester, it continues its course in that direction,
till

till it falls into the Bristol channel. The tide flows up the Severn as far as Tewksbury, which is near seventy miles from the sea, and from Newnham upon this river, which is upwards of fifty miles from the ocean, it has more the appearance of a sea than a river; the flood tide advances with such impetuosity, that in one swell, it sometimes rises near four feet.

The Wye, which, in the ancient British tongue, is said to signify a river or water, rises within half a mile of the source of the Severn, and flowing south-east, separates Radnorshire and Brecknockshire from each other; then running through Herefordshire, and parting Monmouthshire from Gloucestershire, falls into the mouth of the Severn, about three miles to the south of Chepstow, in Monmouthshire.

The river Stroud rises two or three miles to the east of Painswick in this county; and taking a circuit of no great extent, falls into the Severn, about six miles below Gloucester. No part of this river was made navigable till the year 1730, when it was rendered so by act of parliament, from Stroud to its conflux with the Severn. The water of this river is remarkably clear, and is said to have such a peculiar property in dying scarlet, and other grain-colours, that no other water can give them so fine a gloss. This has induced the clothiers to settle along its banks, for twenty miles together, and to erect upon them a vast number of fulling-mills; some of these clothiers used formerly to make a thousand pieces of cloth a year each.

The Upper Avon rises in Northamptonshire, and running through Warwickshire, separates Gloucestershire from Worcestershire, till it falls into the Severn, near Tewksbury.

The Lower Avon, also distinguished by the name of Avon-Weſt, riſes near Tetbury, on the borders of Wiltſhire, and ſeparating Glouceſterſhire from Somerſetſhire, falls into the Severn near Briſtol. This river abounds with a ſort of fiſh called Elvers, which are of the ſize of ſmall needles, and ſeem to be young eels. Of theſe the fiſhermen take great quantities, and make them into cakes with eggs, which being fried, in ſome people's opinion, are a great delicacy. This river flows through a deep channel for about two miles, from the Hot-well near Briſtol, towards King Road; and the rocks on each ſide are rough, craggy and romantick in their appearance. Many of them are very high, and repreſent rude, groteſque figures, which have a very agreeable appearance. The cliffs hang over in ſome places, in a very aſtoniſhing manner, and many of them are covered with little ſhrubs, tall plants, tufts of graſs, and clumps of ſhort trees, in ſuch a manner, that they appear like little hanging woods, which afford a proſpect perhaps no where elſe to be found in the kingdom.

Gloceſterſhire has but one medicinal water, which is at Cheltenham, a town in the road from Glouceſter to Warwick. It was not much taken notice of before the year 1740, and then it was ſaid to be the beſt purging water in England; but it begins now to be neglected. It is limpid, a little brackiſh, and nauſeouſly bitter. It will curdle with ſoap, and lets fall a white grumous ſediment, with the ſolution of ſalt of tartar, and with the ſpirit of ſal ammoniac. It will ferment with oil of vitriol, ſpirit of ſalt and vinegar; beef and mutton boiled therein will become of a pale red, and it turns of a deep green with ſyrup of violets. A gallon will yield 688 grains of ſediment, which contains a little impalpable earth,
mixed

mixed with a little salt, which is chiefly calcareous, and has a nauseous bitter taste. The dose is from one pint to three or four, nor is it ever attended with gripes, but creates a keen appetite. It has been used with success in the gravel, and will cure old scorbutick humours, St. Anthony's fire, and strumous inflammations of the eyes.

Glocestershire is divided into three parts, Coteshwold, the Vale, and the Forest of Dean. Coteshwold, which borders on Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, is not very fertile, but is proper for feeding multitudes of sheep, whose wool is very fine, and in high esteem. This renders it a cloathing county, and it has many towns, entirely employed in that trade. It has been computed, that 50,000 pieces of cloth have been annually made in this county, and the number of sheep, at one time, have been estimated at 4000.

The Vale is in the middle part, and is a fertile plain, that extends on both sides the river Severn; and in this part of the county the cheese is made, which is so much in request, and is so well known in London by the name of Gloucestershire cheese; though it must be owned, that the cheese of other counties are often sold instead of it.

The Forest of Dean lies in the western part of the county. This is of a triangular form, included between the Wye, the Severn, and the small river Leden. It contains 30,000 acres, is twenty miles long, and ten broad, and was anciently over-run with woods. The oaks that grow where the wood is still preserved, are reckoned the best in England; and from this forest most of the timber formerly employed in ship building was brought, which was so well known to the Spaniards, that when they fitted out their Armada in 1558, to invade England, those who had the direction of that expedition were expressly ordered

to destroy this forest, as the most effectual way to ruin our marine. But since the discovery of many mines of iron, and the passing of several acts of parliament for erecting forges for the working them, these woods became gradually reduced; and several towns and villages have been built in the forest, where the manufacture of iron is carried on. However, in the reign of Charles the Second, an act was passed, empowering certain persons to inclose great numbers of trees for the preservation of the timber; and some years ago many cottages, which had been built in and near the woods, were ordered to be pulled down, because the inhabitants damaged the trees, by lopping them for fuel. As forests are the property of the crown, the king has a large and strong building in the midst of this forest, where there is a swanimote court, to preserve the vert and venison. It is called the Speech-house, and the judges of it are the verdurers, chosen by the freeholders of the county. The miners have also a court in this forest, which is directed by a steward, appointed by the constable of the forest, and juries of miners, who have their particular laws and customs, by which they are governed, determine all differences and disputes that arise between them.

It ought not to be omitted, that at Taynton near Newent, on the northern borders of this forest, a gold mine was discovered about the year 1700, of which a lease was granted to some refiners, who extracted some gold from the ore, but did not go on with the work, the quantity of gold being so small, as not always to answer the expence of the separation.

On the Gloucester side of the Lower Avon is Durdham Downs, which are large and extensive, abounding in the same sort of rocks as those which
bound

bound the Avon by the Hot-well near Bristol. These do not consist of common stone, for when they are fresh broken, they discover variety of colours, and all their particles are bright and shining; insomuch that some affirm, they approach to the nature of granite. They have also particles of mundic, besides those of talc, which occasions them to glitter. Hence it is very probable, that there are some sort of mines there, which may be either of copper, tin or lead, because mundic is never found, except in those places where there is some sort of metal. Add to this, that all the earth about Clifton, and the Downs, is full of this sulphureous substance; for the very dust of the road shines and glitters, when the sun is not covered with clouds. If a quantity of this dust be taken up and examined with the microscope, there will be found spangles of coloured talc, several little square pieces of mundic, and other irregular fragments mixed with the sand.

The largest rocks upon these Downs consist of lime-stone, so called from their burning it into lime. It seems to be a sort of marble, harder than the common sort, and of a closer grain; it takes a good polish, and looks very beautiful, as appears from the chimney-piece in the pump-room at the Hot-well at Bath. There is some variety in the colour, but it is generally dark and dusky, with a tinge of blue; but some is almost black, streaked or spotted with white.

There are stones in the quarries of this country, all of which grow in loose pieces, though laid near each other; they are of various sizes, from a foot square to four or five. They never rise perpendicular, but are all slanting, some one way and some another. They are generally of the colour of a bluish slate or lead; but in some quarries they are brownish, and in others grey, and they

all burn to excellent lime. These stones are used for building houses and walls, and in country places they serve for enclosures.

In the fields about Badmington, there are found cylindrical stones, and bullets, almost as big as cannon balls; and on the hills, about Algelly, stones are constantly met with, resembling cockles and oysters. On the north side of Tetbury there is a spring, which within forty paces of the place where it rises will encrust sticks, and other things, with stone.

Iron ore is frequently met with among these rocks; this is often very rich; but the want of wood, in this part of the county, prevents farther inquiries. Some of this ore is stoney, and another looks like rusty iron, which is greatly esteemed in the German mines. Many lumps that are broken from the large bed of iron ore, that are found among these rocks, discover a great variety of colours; but most of them are reddish; however, there are some brown, and a great many crimson and yellow; besides which, there is a remarkable sort like spar, only it is yellower, heavier, transparent and composed of flakes. This in Germany will yield thirty pounds of iron in the hundred. There are other pieces of ore that are like emery, and others again that stain the fingers, and are glossy, reddish and bright when broken. Some pieces are streaked, and very beautiful on the outside, representing what is commonly called the blood stone. In some there are clusters of crystal, and spars of various forms.

The remarkable earths found in these parts are chiefly two, and they are both of the nature of oker, the one being red, and the other yellow. They are very brittle, and often crumble to dust in the places where they lie; they both stain the fingers very much, when they are touched. The
red

red is between crimson and purple, and the yellow is of a fine gold colour; they both make a very good paint when ground with oil, and much better than the common sorts. Besides these, there is a deep red sort, that is in greater plenty, but not so fine, and another that is yellow, which is so light, that it may be blown away with the breath; however, it stains more than the other, and is as fine as hair powder. It is of a lemon colour, and like the French oker, but finer.

There are two different sorts of substances found in the crevices of rocks, and the hollows of stones, known to the naturalists by the name of crystal and spar. They are both clear and transparent, and in angulated forms; one end is generally fixed to the stone, the other pointed or sharp, and they commonly grow in clusters. Some are very clear, bright and hard, and others are muddy, softer and less glossy; the first of these are crystals, and the latter spars. Crystals will cut glass, and undergo no change in the fire, unless the heat be very violent, and then they will change into glass; but the spars will not so much as scratch glass, and in the fire they will presently calcine to lime.

Those called Bristol stones, are of the crystal kind, and are generally perfectly transparent and colourless, except some that are a little whitish, but these are not common. They have a natural polish, and may be set in rings without farther trouble, except separating them from each other. There are large quantities of these in the clefts of rocks and cavities of stones, especially in those where there is iron ore. People make it their business to dig for them and sell them, for the embellishment of grottos and the like. Some of these stones resemble table diamonds, and others have the appearance of rose diamonds. In some

parts about Clifton they are very small, short and numerous ; but about King's Weston the clusters rise higher, and are more irregular ; but they have a pretty romantick look. Though they generally adhere to the rock at one end, yet there are some that lie flat, growing to the stone by one side, and these are pointed at both ends.

At Lassington near Gloucester, on the side of a hill, as well as in other places, are found star stones, called Astroites, which are very beautiful. Some authors tell us as a wonder, that they have a motion when put in vinegar, the reason of which is very obvious ; for there being a fermentation between the acid of the vinegar, and the alkali of the stone, there must needs be a motion produced, especially as the astroites are small, and consequently may easily be disturbed.

With respect to the method of agriculture used in this county, about North-Leach, they sow much saintfoil ; they prepare for it by turnips, and mow it every year for about ten, generally getting a ton, or a ton and a half of hay per acre for it. With respect to the roads, that from Gloucester to Newnham, which is twelve miles, tho' it has the name of a turnpike, is most shamefully rough and stony. This line of country is hilly and picturesque, for the road runs all the way by the Severn, which has a bold shore, finely wooded, and breaks upon the view in a very pleasing manner, for the land is good, well cultivated, and all inclosed.

Among the singular plants that grow wild in this county, are,

Elegant broad-leaved imperforate St. John's wort, *Androsæmum campoclarense* Col. Matthioli, Park. On St. Vincent's rock near Bristol.

Marsh asparagus, or sperage, *Asparagus palustris*, Ger. In Appleton-meadow, about two miles from

from Bristol ; where the country people gather the buds or young shoots, and sell them in the markets at Bristol, much cheaper than our garden kind is sold in London. This should seem rather to be the common or manured asparagus growing wild, than the maritime, which differs from it, though growing in the same place, in having thicker leaves, and a better taste.

The box-tree, *Buxus arborescens*, Park. *Buxus*, Ger. J. B. At Boxwell in Coteshwold.

Daisy-leaved ladies-smock, *Cardimine pumila bellidis folis alpina*, Ger. Found by Mr. Newton on St. Vincent's rock near Bristol.

Spleenwort or Miltwast, *Ceterach*, five *asplenium* & *scolopendria*. Plentifully about St. Vincent's rock, among the heaps of stones, and on many walls about Bristol.

Small autumnal hyacinth, *Hiacinthus autumnalis minor*. On St. Vincent's rock.

English sea-tree mallow, *Malva arborea marina nostras*, Park. On an island called Dinney, three miles from King's-road, and five miles from Bristol, *Park*.

Rock-parsley, *Peucedanum minus*, Park. C. P. Phytop, *pumilum*, Ger. *Peucedani facie pusilla planta*, Lob. *Selinum montanum pumilum Clusii*, *foliis fœniculi aut peucedani, flore albo, semine Selini*, J. B. On St. Vincent's rock near Bristol.

Wild-madder, *Rubia sylvestris*, Park. On St. Vincent's rock. This hath been mistaken for the common manured madder, from which it is specifically distinct.

Small fengrene of St. Vincent's rock, *Sedum minus è rupe St. Vincentii*. The title directs to the place.

Knobby-rooted anemony or wind-flower, *Anemone tuberosa radice*, Phyt. Brit, said by Mr. Hea-

ton to grow on Cotefwold-hills near Black-Burton, and to be a great ornament to those barren hills.

Alexanders, *Hipposelinum*, Ger. emac. *Hipposelinum seu smyrnium vulgare*, Park. On the rocks at Bechley going down to Ast-ferry.

Finely cut annual mountain cresses, *Nasturtium montanum annuum tenuissime divisum*. St. Vincent's rock, near Goram's chair in the parish of Henbury, three miles from Bristol. It is something agreeable to the *Nasturtium alpinum tenuissime divisum septimum*, C. B.

This county is in the province of Canterbury, and is a Diocese of itself. It is divided into thirty hundreds, and contains one city, and twenty-five market-towns, in which are contained 280 parishes, 26,760 houses, 162,568 inhabitants, who are represented in parliament by eight members, two knights of the shire for the county, two members for the city of Gloucester, two for the borough of Cirencester, and two for Tewksbury.

We shall enter this county by the road from London to Gloucester, where we first find LECHLADE, a town on the confines of Berkshire and Oxfordshire, seventy-six miles from London. It takes its name from the piece of ground on which it stands, formerly called the Lade, and the Lech, a small river that runs near it. The Thames, after having been encreased by receiving the streams of the Lech, the Coln, and the Churn, begins to be navigable at this town; and barges come to its quay, to take in cheese, butter, and other goods, which renders this place not inconsiderable.

Some monkish writers tell us, that on one side of the river was a university for Latin, and on the other side for Greek; but this is fabulous. A
 priory,

priory, or rather hospital of black canons, for a prior or master, and certain poor and infirm brethren, was erected near this town, and dedicated to St. John the Baptist, by lady Isabel Ferrers, wife of Hugh Mortimer, before the thirtieth of king Henry the Third, but this house being decayed, king Edward the Fourth, in the twelfth year of his reign, gave Cicely, his mother, dutchess of York, leave to get it dissolved, and to apply its revenues to the endowing a perpetual chauntry of three priests of the order of St. Mary, in the parish church, which continued till dean Underwood, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, found means to place two of these chauntry priests at Wallingford college, in Berkshire, while the third remained at Lechlade.

This town has a small market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, one held on the 10th of August, for cattle and toys, and the other on the 9th of September, for cheese and cattle.

Near Lechlade has been discovered, by digging in a meadow, a building fifty feet long, forty broad, and four high, supported by one hundred brick pillars, curiously inlaid with stones of various colours, and supposed to be the remains of a Roman bath.

Two miles south west of Lechlade is FAIRFORD, which took its name from a ford, formerly over the river Coln, near the place where it falls into the Thames. It is twenty-four miles east of Gloucester, and seventy-eight west by north of London. There are here two good bridges over the Coln. The church is a very handsome structure, one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and fifty-five broad, consisting of a spacious body, two isles, three chancels, and a vestry, with a square tower in the middle, and is extremely remarkable for its twenty-eight large
painted

painted windows, representing some of the principal events of the Old and New Testament. In the first window is the serpent tempting Eve; Moses keeping his father's sheep in the wilderness; Moses and the burning-bush; an angel guiding Joshua to war, and Sheba offering gifts to Solomon. In the second window is the salutation of Zacharias and Elizabeth; the birth of John the Baptist; the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, &c. In the third window is the salutation of the Virgin Mary; the birth of our Saviour; the wise men making their offerings; the purification of the Blessed Virgin; the circumcision of our Saviour, and Simon receiving him in the temple. In the fourth window is the flight of Joseph and Mary; Joseph gathering fruit in the wilderness, and an angel bending down the branches; Joseph and Mary finding our Saviour disputing with the doctors in the temple, and the assumption of the Virgin Mary. In the fifth window is our Saviour riding upon an ass to Jerusalem; Zacheus in a sycamore-tree; our Saviour's passion in the garden; Pilate sitting in judgment against him; their scourging him; his being compelled to bear the cross; and the crucifixion. In the sixth window is Joseph of Arimathea begging the body of Jesus; Nicodemus receiving it; their laying the body in the sepulchre; and St. Michael and his angels fighting the dragon and his angels. In the seventh window is the anointing of our Saviour for his burial; the angel that rolled away the stone sitting in the sepulchre; and the transfiguration, &c. In the eighth window is Christ appearing to his disciples in the way to Emmaus; his breaking bread before them; and his appearing to the twelve apostles. In the ninth window is Jesus shewing himself to the disciples, when they were fishing in the sea of Tiberius. His
eating

eating with them, and his ascension into heaven. In the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth windows, are represented the twelve apostles, each with an article of the apostle's creed in Latin, disposed in an oval form round his head. In the thirteenth window are St. Jerome, St. Gregory, St. Ambrose, and St. Augustine. In the fourteenth window is king David, sitting in judgment against the Amalekite for cutting off Saul's head. In the fifteenth, which is the great window in the west end of the church, is our Saviour coming to judgment, &c. In the sixteenth window is Solomon's judgment; Sampson slaying the Philistines; Sampson and Delilah, and here is absurdly placed Midas's dispute with Apollo. In the seventeenth window are the four Evangelists writing their gospels. In the three next windows are the twelve prophets, each with a prophecy concerning the Messiah, in old Latin, round his head. Four other windows represent the persecutors of the church, with devils on their heads; and in four windows, on the south side of the body of the church, are the twelve Roman emperors, who protected the christians, with angels over their heads. These paintings were executed by Albert Durer, and are so exquisitely finished, that Vandyke affirmed, that the pencil could not exceed them. This church is visited by travellers from all parts; and a man is appointed on purpose, to shew and explain these fine paintings. The glass of the windows was found on board a ship bound to Rome, which was taken as a prize by Mr. John Tame, merchant of London, in the reign of Henry the Seventh; when he brought it home to England, he purchased the manor of that prince, and built this church, on purpose to put the glass in the windows; where, by much care, they have been preserved, the glass being taken down during the civil

civil wars, and thus preserved from the violence of the times; but upon its being put up again, many of the paintings were misplaced. Fairford has two fairs; the first on the 14th of May, and the other on the 12th of November, for sheep and horned cattle.

At Fairford many medals and urns have been dug up; and in the adjoining fields are several barrows, supposed to have been raised over some considerable persons, who have been slain here in battle.

Near the church is the seat of James Lambe, Esq; which is adorned with fine gardens. Opposite the north front stand four images representing the four seasons, beyond which is a vista through a park stocked with deer, terminated by an obelisk, nearly a mile distant. There is a wilderness consisting of serpentine walks, adorned with images, urns and grottoes. A fine canal is brought into the gardens from the river Coln, and is well stocked with fruit-trees, shrubs, and flowers.

At the distance of twelve miles north-west of Fairford is BRIMPSFIELD, once noted for its castle and priory, which last was a cell to the abbey of Fontenoy in Normandy. It was dissolved by Henry the Fifth, who kept the profits to himself; as also did Henry the Sixth; but Edward the Fourth, granted the lands to the free chapel of St. George in the castle at Windsor. The church is inconsiderable, it having only a low tower in the middle with battlements.

The city of GLOCESTER, the principal place in the county, is situated thirty-six miles east-north-east of Bristol, twenty-two south of Worcester, fifty-eight south west of Coventry, twenty-eight east-south-east of Hereford, and 102 west by north of London. It was originally called by the ancient Britons Caerglow, *the Fair city*, from

its

its fine situation, and the beauty of its buildings. This name was changed by the Romans into Clevum, or Glevum, to which the Saxons, as was usual with them, added Cester, which signifies a castle or fortification, and called it Gleavcester, whence its present name is derived. Leland says, that in his time it was a large place, well built with timber, and defended with strong walls, except on the side where it is washed by the Severn. There were four gates, namely, the east, west, north, and south; and the ancient castle stood south of the town, on the banks of the Severn. The beauty of the town consisted of two streets that crossed each other, running towards the gates, and in the middle where they meet was an aqueduct. There were suburbs without the east, north and south gates; but the bridge only, with the causeway, lay at the west gate. The bridge consisted of eleven large stone arches; and there was another a little to the west, that had only two. A little way farther there was another bridge, just without the west gate, which had five arches. From this bridge there ran a large stone causeway, through the low meadows near the Severn, to the length of a quarter of a mile; and in it there were double arched bridges, that drained the meadows after a flood, and at the end of the causeway was a bridge of eight arches.

This city was made a bishop's see by king Henry the Eighth, and on the inhabitants resigning their charter in the year 1672, to king Charles the Second, he granted them a new one, by which the city is governed by a steward, a mayor, twelve aldermen, a recorder, two sheriffs, twenty-six common-councilmen, a town-clerk, a sword-bearer, and four serjeants at mace. For the better regulating the trade of this city, there are twelve companies, whose masters attend the mayor,

on

on all public occasions, in their gowns. These are the mercers, in which are included the apothecaries, grocers and chandlers, the weavers; the tanners; the butchers; the bakers; the smiths and hammer-men, among whom are the goldsmiths, ironmongers, coopers, and joiners; the shoemakers, metal-men, taylor, barbers and glovers.

The city, which is well built, clean and healthy, stands on a pleasant hill, secured on the west side by a branch of the Severn, navigable for large ships to the very quay. In the center of the town, where the four great streets meet at right angles, is a statue of colonel Selwyn, member of parliament for the city, who, at his own expence, made a very large and noble reservoir of excellent water, at about half a mile distance: this water is brought into a basin placed at the feet of the statue, and from thence extends on each side into four canals, one of which passes thro' each of the four great streets, for the convenient supply of the inhabitants.

The cathedral is an ancient magnificent fabric, and its tower is esteemed one of neatest and most curious pieces of architecture in England. In this church are twelve chapels, adorned with the arms and monuments of many great persons, with the tomb of king Edward the Second, and of Robert duke of Normandy, the son of William the conqueror. But what is most remarkable in this church, is the gallery over the east end of the choir, extending from one side of it to the other, which is much admired as a whispering place; it is of an hexagonal form, consisting of six sides and six angles; in the widest place, it is twenty-five yards over, and one of the sides is a window, yet if two persons go to the most distant parts and whisper, they will be perfectly heard by each

each other. This cathedral has beautiful cloysters, and there belong to it a dean and six prebendaries.

This cathedral is said to have the following origin; Wulphere, the first christian king of Mercia, we are told, began a church and monastery here, which were finished by Ethelred about the year 680, and dedicated to St. Peter. Three successive queens presided over this monastery for above ninety years; but in the time of the civil wars that followed, it became desolate, and thus continued fifty years; but about 823, some secular priests were placed in it by Bernulph, king of Northumberland; these were turned out, and Benedictine monks placed in their room, about the year 1022, by order of king Canute, at the instigation of Wolstan, bishop of Worcester. His successor, bishop Aldred, about the year 1058, new built the abbey church in a place where it formerly stood, nearer the city; and after the conquest, abbot Serlo, the conqueror's chaplain, greatly encreased the number of monks, and the revenues, which, at the dissolution, amounted to 1946 l. s. 9 d. per annum. At the suppression of this abbey, Henry the Eighth erected Gloucester into a bishopric, and the abbey church became the cathedral.

Gloucester has also five parish churches, besides several meeting-houses of protestant dissenters, and is well provided with hospitals. It has an infirmary, and a charity-school for above eighty children. Seventy of whom are cloathed. There have been several benefactors to this city, some of whom are as follow, namely, Sir Thomas White gave 2000 l. to twenty-four cities, of which Gloucester is one, and is to have 100 l. once in twenty-four years, to be lent to four citizens, without interest, for ten years. Mr. Holden
of

of London gave 100 l. to be lent to two merchants for seven years. Mr. Ellis gave 50 l. to be lent to one without interest. Alderman Wiltshire also gave 100 l. to be lent to five poor tradesmen, as did also Mr. Fettiplace.

Here is likewise a castle erected in the reign of William the Conqueror, but it is now much decayed; however, part of it is leased out by the crown, and the rest serves for a prison, which is, indeed, one of the best in England. There is a good stone bridge over the river, besides a quay, a wharf, and a custom-house; and under the bridge is a machine, which supplies the whole city with water. There are several market-houses, supported by pillars; and a town-hall. The trade of this city was formerly considerable; but since the great increase of that of Bristol, it has decayed; one of its chief manufactures at present is that of pin-making, which employs near four hundred hands, of whom a great number are women and children. There are some glass-houses in the city; and a pretty brisk trade is carried on by means of the Severn with Shrewsbury, Bristol, &c. It has a market, held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and four fairs, namely, a great cheese fair on April 5, and on July 5, September 28, and November 28, for cattle, pigs, horses, and cheese.

Besides the monastery of St. Peter already mentioned, we are told by some of the legendary writers, that about the year 660, a stately monument was built here by Marwold, viceroy of the western part of Mercia, and Domneva, his wife, in honour of St. Oswald, the king and martyr. It is also said, upon better authority, that in 909, Ethelred, earl of Mercia, and Elfleda, daughter of king Alfred, his countess, translating the reliques of St. Oswald from Bardney, near Lincoln,

coln, to this place, founded here a religious house, which being deserted by the monks in the Danish wars, became a college of secular priests, which was then accounted a free chapel royal, exempt from the jurisdiction of the archbishop of Canterbury, or the bishop of Worcester; but king William Rufus, gave it to the archbishops of York, in lieu of their claims to Lindsey, one of the three divisions of Lincolnshire, and to other parts in that county, which they quitted to the bishop of Lincoln. In 1153, Henry Murdock, archbishop of York, placed here a certain number of regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, seven of whom continued till the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at 90 l. 10 s. a year.

King Ethelstan founded here a priory of black canons of the order of St. Augustine.

A house or college of black friars was founded about the year 1239, near the castle yard of Gloucester, by king Henry the Third, and Sir Stephen de Herneshull.

A house of grey friars was founded before the year 1268, by one of the lord Berkeleys, not far from the south gate, in the parish of St. Mary Cript.

A priory of Carmelite, or white friars, was founded in the reign of king Henry the Third, by queen Eleanor, Sir Thomas Giffard, and Sir Thomas Berkeley, without the north gate.

A priory, or hospital dedicated to St. Bartholomew, was founded by king Henry the Third, in the parish church of St. Nicholas, near the west bridge, for four infirm brothers and sisters, under the government of a prior or master. In this hospital were once maintained fifty-two poor men, but it afterwards consisted of a master, three brethren, and thirty-two poor men and women. At the dissolution it was valued at 44 l. a year. It is

is now an hospital for poor people, in which are maintained a minister, physician, surgeon, master, twenty-four poor men, and thirty women, each of whom have a room, and an allowance of half a crown a week.

It will be necessary, before we conclude this article, to give a concise history of this ancient city, which, as we have already observed, is allowed by all authors to have been a Roman station. After the Saxon heptarchy, this place was of some note; and near it, king Edmund, surnamed Ironside, fought for the kingdom in the Isle of Alney, with Canute, who obtained the victory. A little before the conquest, by William the First, Bricktric, a Saxon, was lord of Gloucester; but refusing to marry Maud, afterwards the wife of William the Conqueror, she caused him to be imprisoned, and his estate to be seized by the crown. Afterwards William Rufus gave it to Robert Fitz-Haimon, lord of Corbaille in Normandy. Several of our kings kept their Christmas at Gloucester. King John, in the first year of his reign, made Gloucester a borough town, and Henry the Third, a corporation. In the reign of the last mentioned king, the barons laid siege to it, and took it in four days; however, it was soon after retaken by prince Edward, his son, who pardoned the burgessees, upon their paying a thousand marks. King Edward the First held a parliament here in the year 1272; in which some useful laws were made, now called the Statutes of Gloucester. King Richard the Second also held a parliament here, and king Richard the Third, on account of his having borne the title of duke of Gloucester, before he obtained the crown, added the two adjacent hundreds of Dudston and Kings-Barton to it, gave it his sword and cap of maintenance, and made it a county of itself, by the name of the
county

county of the city of Gloucester; but after the restoration, the hundreds were taken away by act of parliament, and the walls of the city razed; because, in 1643, the inhabitants shut the gates against king Charles the First, by whom it was in vain besieged. The city had then eleven parish churches, but six of them were then demolished, and only the remaining five, with the cathedral, were left standing. This city now gives the title of duke to his royal highness William Henry, his majesty's brother.

At LANTHONY, near Gloucester, Milo, earl of Hereford, founded a monastery in the year 1136, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. John Baptist, for the black canons of Lanthony, in Monmouthshire, who were driven out of their habitation by the Welch. This monastery was, at the dissolution, endowed with a revenue of 748 l. 19 s. 11 d. a year.

HEMPSTEAD is a village near two miles south of Gloucester; its church stands upon a hill, and has a tower between the body of it and the chancel, in which are the effigies of a judge in his robes, lying at length on a monument. It was designed for Richard Atkins, Esq; chief justice of South Wales, who died in 1610.

ELMORE is a village seated on the Severn, three miles south-west of Gloucester; and is so called from the plenty of eels caught near it. The church is a double building, supported by pillars, and has a north-isle, and a tower with battlements.

Six miles north-west of Gloucester is NEWENT, which takes its name from a new inn, erected here for the conveniency of travellers to and from Wales; from thence it first became a hamlet, and afterwards a town. It is situated in the forest of Dean, six miles north-west of Gloucester, eight south

south of Lidbury, and 104 from London, on a small river navigable by boats. Its parish is very large, and said to be twenty miles in compass, in which are several gentlemen's seats. It has a handsome church, and several charitable foundations.

William Rogers, of Oakely, erected two almshouses here, besides which there is another, with eight dwellings and gardens for poor people. It has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, on the Wednesday before Easter, Wednesday before Whit-Sunday, August 1, and the Friday after September 8, for cattle, horses, and cheese.

GREAT DEAN, or MICHAEL DEAN, the principal town in the forest of Dean, is situated seventeen miles south-west of Newent, and is a tolerable handsome town, chiefly consisting of one street, and has a good church, with a handsome spire. Its principal manufacture was formerly cloth, but now it is pins. The hills round the town abound with iron ore, and there are several furnaces for melting it, and forges for beating the iron into flats. The workmen are here very industrious in discovering the beds of the old iron cinders, which, not being fully exhausted of the metal, are purchased of the owners of the land, at a good price; and being again burnt in the furnaces, afford better iron than the ore new dug from the mines. This town has a market on Mondays; and 2 fairs, on Easter-Monday, and October 10, for horned cattle, sheep, and horses.

LITTLE DEAN lies about two miles to the south of the former, and has also two fairs, one on Whitson-Monday, and the other on the 26th of November, for pedlars ware.

Three miles to the eastward of Michael Dean is WESTBURY, a very large parish, containing several hamlets. This village has two churches

in the same yard, the old and the new : this last is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is chiefly used by the inhabitants.

About a mile to the south-east of Westbury, is FLAXLEY, a village, where was formerly an abbey of Cistercian monks, founded by Roger, earl of Hereford, in the reign of king Stephen, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. At the suppression it had nine monks, and its annual revenues were then rated at 112 l. 3 s.

At the distance of a mile south of Flaxley is NEWNHAM, which consists of one street ; but the parish is eight miles in compass, and contains rich arable land and pastures, with several hamlets. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, for horses and sheep, held on the 11th of June, and the 18th of October.

From Newnham the road extends south-west, and passes by LIDNEY, which is about a mile out of the road, eight miles south-west of Newnham, and the south-east of Monmouth. This is a parish of pretty large extent, bordering on the river Severn.

The church is a large spacious building, with a very handsome spire ; and here is an alms-house for the benefit of the poor. It has a market on Wednesdays, and 2 fairs, on May 4, and November 8, for cattle.

About seven miles to the south-west of Newnham is WOOLASTON, a considerable village, which contains about 220 houses, and 460 inhabitants. The parish is twelve miles in compass, and consists of arable and pasture land. The church, however, is but a mean structure, and has a low, wooden tower in the middle.

Three miles south-west of Woolaston is TYDENHAM, a parish fifteen miles in compass, bounded on three sides, by the rivers Severn and
Wye,

Wye, and consists chiefly of pasture and arable land. Chepstow bridge is half in this parish, and is maintained by this county, as the other half is by Monmouthshire. The tide at this bridge is thought to rise higher than at any other place in the world ; for it sometimes advances to the height of sixty feet. Offa's dyke, which was drawn by that king to separate the kingdom of Mercia from Wales, begins at Beachley in this parish, and passes through Flintshire, to the river Dee in Cheshire. The church, belonging to the village, is supported with pillars in the middle, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary ; but the tower at the west end is but low. At the utmost point of this parish, at the confluence of the Severn and Wye, there stood a chapel, dedicated to St. Tecla, who was said to be the first female martyr, and that she suffered in the year 47 ; but this must be a fable, Christianity being then not known in this island ; however, the ruins of the chapel are still to be seen upon the rocks at low water.

We shall now leave the road which passes into Monmouthshire, and crossing the country, proceed northward to St. BRIVAL'S CASTLE, which is between four and five miles north of Tydenham. This castle is in the forest of Dean, and here is held the mine court, chiefly constituted for miners and workers in iron, who have laws of their own, proper for the carrying on their affairs, and deciding their differences, in which there used to be a peculiar custom of an evidence's swearing, by touching a bible with a kind of consecrated stick, and not by his supposed defiled, because dirty, hand. In it is a prison for offenders. The government of this castle has been always given to some of the nobility, and the present constable thereof is the earl of Berkeley.



The East View of St. Brival's Castle, in the County of Gloucester.

Three miles north of the last mentioned castle is **NEWLAND**, which is a very large parish in the same forest, it being thirty miles in compass, and includes meadow, pasture and arable lands. It is seated in a pleasant plain, well watered with several brooks, that run into the river Wye. Here are coal pits and iron mines, some of which are exhausted. The church is a large structure, adorned with a handsome tower, and a spacious churchyard. There have been several donations to the poor of this parish, besides a large hospital, founded by William Jones, a Hamburgh merchant, for sixteen men and women, who are allowed two shillings a week each, and a gown at Christmas. Mr. Bell founded a school-house, as well as an alms-house, for eight poor people.

Four miles east of Newland is **COLEFORD**, a village four miles east of Monmouth, that has two fairs, the first on the 20th of June, for wool, and the other on the 24th of November, for horned cattle and cheese.

Now leaving the forest of Dean, we shall return back to Gloucester, and proceed from thence, in the post road to Bristol, which extends eight miles south-west to **PAINESWICK**, a small town, that takes its name from the ancient family of the Paines, its ancient lords. It is pleasantly seated in the best air in the county, and has the convenience of water, wood and stone, for building. The church, which is large and handsome, has a neat spire at the west end, and two chancels. It has a charity-school, and a manufacture of broad-cloth. This town has a small market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, one on Whitfun-Tuesday, and other on the 19th of September, for horned cattle and sheep.

KINSBOROW-HILL, called also **CASTLE-GODWIN**, is an ancient fortification on a very steep hill

in this parish, from whence there is a large prospect over the Severn. It is surrounded by deep double trenches.

BISLEY is situated about three miles south of Painswick, and has a market on Thursdays, with two fairs, which are held on the 25th of April, and the 12th of November, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

About two miles south-east of Bisley is STROUD, a town seated on a hill, at the foot of which runs a small river of the same name, ten miles to the southward of Gloucester, and ninety-four west of London. There is a bridge over the river, and on the banks are several fulling-mills, it being a great cloathing town; for they are said to make a thousand pieces of cloth in a year. This river has been lately made navigable from the Severn, which has proved of great advantage to this town. The church is a handsome structure, ninety feet long, and thirty broad, with a high spire steeple at the west end, and a tower in the middle. The chancel is thirty-three feet long, and sixteen wide. Here is a free-school, a charity-school, and a workhouse, with a good market on Fridays, for provisions and yarn; and two fairs, held on the 12th of May, and the 21st of August, for cattle, sheep and pigs.

About a mile and a half to the south of Stroud is HAMPTON, or MINCHING-HAMPTON, which took its name from an order of nuns at Caen in Normandy, called Minchings, to whom it formerly belonged. Aldred, bishop of Worcester, before the conquest, gave this monastery to the monks of Worcester, afterwards it was given to Roger de Ivory; but king William the First seizing all his lands, gave this manor to the nunnery of Caen. At length, when Henry the Fifth suppressed the alien monasteries, he settled it upon the
nunnery

nunnery of Sion in Middlesex. The church is large, and in the form of a cross, with isles on each side, and a tower with battlements in the middle. This town has a market on Tuesdays; and two fairs, held on Trinity-Monday, and October 29, for cattle.

About two miles north-west of Minching-Hampton, between Stroud and Stanley St. Leonard, is the village of WOODCHESTER, where, if we may believe tradition, Gueta, the wife of Godwin, earl of Kent, built a religious house to atone for her husband's guilt in corrupting the nuns at Berkeley. In the church-yard of this village, a curious Roman pavement of mosaic work was discovered in the year 1722. Some have supposed it to belong to the above religious house; but others, with much greater probability, imagine that it was the floor of the habitation of some Roman general. It is of considerable extent, and represents birds and beasts in their natural colours, besides a variety of other devices beautifully exhibited. Here is a free-school, erected at the cost of Nathaniel Cambridge, who gave 1200 l. for that purpose. One Mr. Seys also gave 400 l. to endow and erect a school, to teach poor girls at this village to write and read.

STANLEY ST. LEONARD lies on the same road, a little more than half a mile to the west of Woodchester, and is so called, from a priory of Benedictine monks, dedicated to that saint, of which there are still some remains. It was founded by Roger de Berkeley, in the year 1146, and was valued, at the dissolution, at 126 l. a year. The church is built in the form of a cross, with a tower in the middle, and dedicated to St. Swithin. This place has a small market on Saturdays, and one fair on July 20, for cattle.

Two miles south-west of Stanley St. Leonard is **DURSLEY**, which is seated near a branch of the Severn, and had formerly a strong castle, now in ruins. It is a corporation, governed by a bailiff and four constables. The inhabitants carry on a manufacture of woollen cloth, and have a market on Thursdays, with two fairs, held on the 6th of May, and the 4th of December, for cattle and pedlars goods.

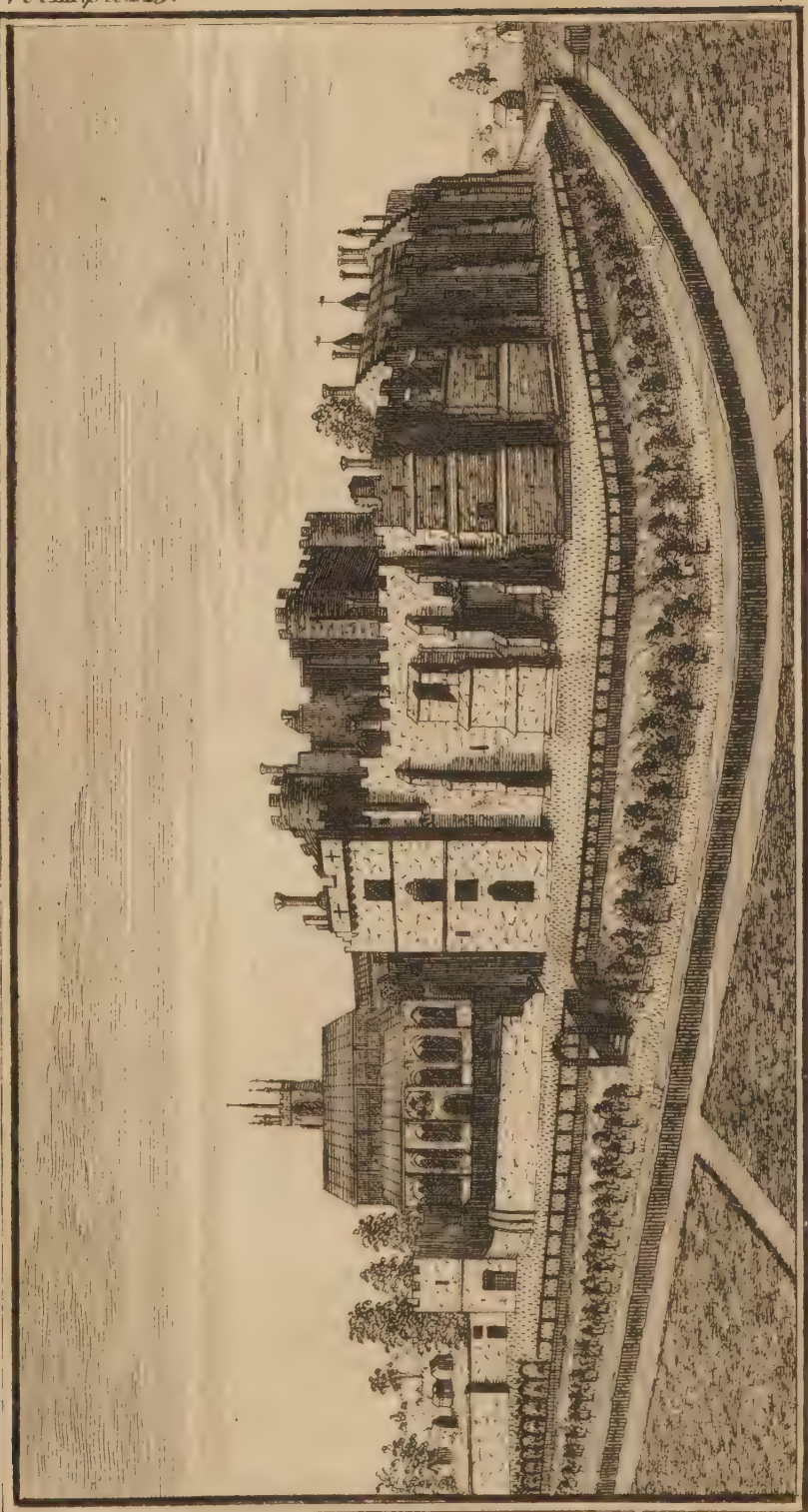
Edward Fox, an eminent statesman in the sixteenth century, almoner to king Henry the Eighth, and bishop of Hereford, was born in this town, and educated at Eton-school. In 1512, he was admitted scholar of King's college in Cambridge, of which, in 1528, he was elected provost. Being introduced to court by his near relation, Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, he soon distinguished himself by his political abilities. He was deeply concerned in all the public transactions of that long and active reign; particularly in the affair of the king's divorce, and the work of the reformation. After possessing a great number of inferior church preferments, he was raised, in 1535, to the see of Hereford, which he enjoyed till his death. He died at London May 8, 1538, and was interred in the church of St. Mary Mon-thaw in Thames-Street.

Three miles south-west of Stanley is **CAMBRIDGE**, a village remarkable for its bridge, which the Danes passed over loaded with spoils, but were soon after attacked by the West Saxons and Mercians, when the fight becoming very bloody, three of their princes were slain.

A mile and a half north-west of the former lies **SLYMBRIDGE**, a village whose church is a large lofty structure, adorned with battlements, and a spire steeple. It has an isle on each side, and a
very

The South East View of Berkeley Castle, in the County of Gloucester.

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very handsome vestry joining to the chancel. Several hamlets belong to this parish.

Six miles west of Stanley is **BERKELEY**, a town seated on a branch of the Severn, twenty miles north of Bristol; this is an ancient borough, governed by a mayor and aldermen. The castle and its manor, called the Honour of Berkeley, has been in the same family that now possess it, ever since the reign of Henry the Second. Here Edward the Second was imprisoned; and the room in which he was confined is still to be seen. This castle is a handsome old Gothic building, and is very strong, but it seems to have been built at several times. It is the seat of the present earl of Berkeley, and is very large and spacious. Of this structure we have given a view engraved on copper. The church of this town is a large and handsome structure, with an isle on each side, besides a spacious chancel, to which joins a chapel, that is at present the burying place of the family of Berkeley.

Here was a nunnery long before the conquest, which was suppressed by the villainous contrivance of Godwin, earl of Kent, who procured many of the nuns, and the abbess herself, to be debauched, and afterwards begged it of Edward the Confessor. An hospital of St. James and St. John, in this place, is mentioned in a deed of the twelfth of king Henry the Third, but no particulars are known about it.

The manor, in which this town lies, is one of the largest in England, most of the towns in Berkeley hundred, and many other places in the county, including near thirty parishes, depending upon it, and the lands that are held of it are computed to be worth 30,000 l. a year. Here is a market on Wednesdays, and a fair on the 14th of May, for cattle and pigs.

Eight miles south-west of Berkeley is THORNBURY, a town situated two miles from the eastern bank of the Severn, on a rivulet that runs by it, twenty-four miles south-west of Gloucester, and 105 west of London. The town has a customary or titular mayor, twelve aldermen, who have served the office of mayor, and two constables. Here are the foundations of a magnificent castle, which Edward, duke of Buckingham designed to erect in the year 1511, as appears from the inscription over the gate; namely, "This gate was begun by me, Edward, duke of Buckingham, earl of Hereford, Stafford and Northampton, in 1511". We are not told that it was ever finished, though it appears that one part certainly was, for the walls, which are pretty entire, show that it was a very fine gothic structure; and even several of the chimnies are still standing. Another part shows little more than the foundations, which, had they been compleated, the castle would have been of a very large extent. The reason it was left in this condition was, that his grace was beheaded in the year 1521, before he had time to complete his design. Of this structure we have given a view engraved on copper.

This town, in the time of the late civil wars, was fortified for the king, by William St. Leger, to curb the garrison of Gloucester. The church is large, and built in the form of a cathedral, with spacious isles on each side, and a cross. It has three chancels, and a tower at the west end, which is high and beautiful. There are four small alms-houses, for the maintenance of fifteen poor people; but two of them have little or no endowment; the other two have so much land settled on them, that each of the poor have a shilling a week and their coals. Mr. Edwards likewise built a free-school, which is since endow-
ed



The South View of Thornbury Castle, in the County of Gloucester.

ed with 14l. a year. This town has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, on Easter Monday, August 15 and the Monday before December 21, for cattle and pigs.

OLDBURY is a village seated upon the Severn, two miles west of Thorbury, and is thought by some to have been a Roman station. There are in this parish two military camps, the greater of which is a large Roman fortification; the other was where the church now stands. The *trajec-tus*, or passage over the Severn, is thought to have been here. The church has two isles, and had a spire steeple, which was blown down in the great storm in 1703.

The road continues to run southward, but at an inconsiderable village, named HAMBROOK, turns south-west, and in that direction extends to BRISTOL, part of which being in this county, and part in Somersetshire, we shall defer the description of it till we come to treat of the towns of the last mentioned county.

In the neighbourhood of Bristol is ST. VINCENT'S ROCK, behind the Hot-well, which hangs over the river Avon, in vast and tremendous cliffs of a prodigious height, and in the place where the river winds a little, they form on one side a vast amphitheatre, which is, perhaps, one of the sublimest sights in nature. The opposite shore of the river is very steep, but quite covered with wood, the verdure of which affords a strong contrast to the barren craggy rocks.

At the village of CLIFTON, near these rocks, a little to the east of Bristol, is a grotto, curious in taste and materials; you enter it under ground, through a dark arched brick passage, that resembles an approach to a wine vault. On opening the door, you are struck with the sight of a den, in which is the statue of a lion. The roof is sup-

ported by four Tuscan pillars, and a small cascade pours from the urn of a river god. Here is the utmost profusion of Bristol stone, many of the pieces very fine; the four pillars are stuck with nothing else; likewise a great number of fine shells, fossils, corals, spar, &c.

KING'S WESTON, the seat of Edward Southill, Esq; is about three miles to the west of Bristol. It was built by Sir John Vanbrugh, and is in his heavy style. The lawn, which is viewed from the house, is very beautiful, but to obtain a fine prospect, you must ascend the hill, a little beyond the place where the breakfasting-house for the Hotwell company is situated, from whence you look down to the left upon some fine woods, in the midst of which Mr. Southill's house appears. In front is a very fine valley two miles broad, intersected with hedges and trees, and bounded by the mouth of the Severn, which is here ten miles over; you command King-road, with a fleet of shipping, which generally lie at anchor. Behind is an extensive view of the country, interspersed with villages: the windings of the Severn are seen twenty miles, and those of the Avon, quite to Bristol. In short, the prospect extends into Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire, Glamorganshire, Brecknockshire, Radnorshire, and even to Pembrokeshire.

At REDLAND, a village also in the neighbourhood of Gloucester, is a house belonging to Mr. Cozens, which is of white stone, light, and elegantly beautiful, and the chapel of the village is extremely neat.

Mr. Champion's copper-works, about three miles from Bristol, are well worth the observation of the curious, they displaying the whole process, from the melting of the ore, to making it into pins, pans, &c. the copper being here not only
extracted

extracted from the ore, but converted into brass, by means of lapis caliminaris. The liquid ore pouring out of the furnace into clay moulds, says the author of the Farmer's letters, from whom we have borrowed this article, resembles the slight eruptions of Mount Vesuvius. After being several times melted, it is poured into a flat mould of stone, to make it into thin plates, about four feet long and three broad. These plates are then cut into seventeen stripes, and these again, with particular machines, into many more very thin ones, and drawn out to the length of seventeen feet, which are again drawn into wire, and done up in bunches, each of forty shillings value, about 100 of which are made here every week, and each of them converted into 100,000 pins, into which the wires are cut, and completed here, a great number of girls being employed with little machines, worked by their feet, point and head them with great expedition. The heads are spun by a woman with a wheel, and separated from one another by a man with another little engine, resembling a pair of sheers. A vast number of awkward pans and dishes are made here of brass, for the negroes on the coast of Guinea, and all the machines and wheels set in motion by water, for raising which there is a prodigious fire-engine, which is said to raise 3000 hogheads every minute.

At WESTBURY, two miles north-west of Bristol, was a monastery before the year 824, but being forsaken and in ruins, it was rebuilt in the year 1093, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The old possessions were then recovered, new ones were added, and monks again placed in it by Wulstan, bishop of Worcester, who made it a cell to the priory of that city; however, the monks were again removed by bishop Sampson,

in the reign of king Henry the First; but in 1288, Godfrey Giffard, bishop of Worcester, established a college for a dean and canons, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, which was afterwards augmented by several benefactions; and at the dissolution was valued at 332 l. 14 s. a year.

HENBURY is a village three miles north of Bristol; near it is a hill called Blaize-hill, because there stood a chapel dedicated to that saint, long since demolished. In the year 1707, when some foundation stones of the chapel were dug up, there were found many ancient Roman coins, and other antiquities. The hill is round, and is said to have been a Roman or British fortification, there being three rampires of a great height and thickness, with trenches still visible. Here is a free-school erected by Mr. Anthony Edwards, who built two houses for the master and usher, and settled 80 l. a year to maintain them; they are employed in teaching poor children, who are to wear blue coats.

MARSHFIELD is seated on the road from London to Bristol, and on the borders of Wiltshire, it being eight miles east of the last mentioned city. It is seated on Cotswold, and consists chiefly of one street of old buildings, near a mile long. It has a large church, and an alms-house, with a chapel belonging to it, well endowed for eight poor people. Here is also a charity-school maintained by the lord of the manor. The town is governed by a bailiff, who has power to punish offenders within its liberty. The inhabitants have a great trade in making malt, and have been famous for their cakes. They have a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the 24th of May, for horned cattle, and another on the 24th of October, for sheep, horses and cheese.

We shall now enter the road which leads from Bristol, and extends north-east through the whole county into Warwickshire.

At the distance of about nine miles north-east of Bristol is PUCKLECHURCH, a village which was formerly a royal villa, the residence of some of the Saxon kings; and the ruins of extensive buildings are still to be seen. Edmund, king of the West Saxons, was here slain in his palace. The church is large, and has a high tower, with pinnacles at the west end.

Three miles east of Pucklechurch is DERHAM, a village full of springs, and remarkable for great ramparts and trenches, which shew that it was formerly the seat of military actions. Relating to this, we are told, that one Ceaulin, king of the West Saxons, engaging with the Britons in the neighbouring fields, obtained a great victory, and slew Cammeail, Condidan and Fariemoil, three of their kings; upon which the cities of Bath, Gloucester and Cirencester, yielded to the Conqueror. The church has an isle on both sides, and at the west end is a tower with battlements.

Here leaving the road, we shall proceed to AUST, a village formerly called AUST-CLIVE. It is about eight miles north-east of Bristol, and has a ferry over the Severn, in the road to Chapstow. It is seated on a very high craggy cliff, and is a hamlet to Henbury, a village near Bristol. There is a neat chapel in this village, with a high tower at the west end, adorned with pinnacles.

ACTON is a village twelve miles north-east of Bristol, and is sometimes called IRON-ACTON, on account of the large quantities of iron ore formerly found at this place, and the heaps of cinders that have been lately dug up, plainly shew, that there have been iron works here. It stands at the confluence of two rivers, which make the Frome.

Frome. In the church yard there is a large cross with arches on the north side thereof. It has two fairs, on April 25, and September 13, for cattle and horses.

CHIPPING SODBURY is an ancient borough, eleven miles north-east of Bristol, originally governed by a bailiff; but in 1681, it was made a corporation, with a mayor, six aldermen, and twelve burgeses; yet in 1688 it was disincorporated. The bailiffs and burgeses are still impowered to distribute eighty-eight cow pastures to as many of the inhabitants, and eight acres of meadow for their own lives, and those of their widows; and as they fall, to grant them again in the like manner. This town is seated in a bottom, and consists of several streets. It is a great thoroughfare in the road from Bristol to Cirencester and Oxfordshire, and has therefore very commodious inns. Here is a spacious church, with a high tower at the west end, tho' it is only a chapel of ease to Old Sodbury, a village in its neighbourhood. Here is a free-school, with 30 l. a year for the school-master; and there are other gifts for repairing the church, and putting out apprentices. The market, which is held on Thursdays, is esteemed the greatest cheese-market in England, except that of Atherston on the Stour, a market-town of Warwickshire. Here are also two fairs, one on the 23d of May, and the other on the 24th of June, for cattle, cheese and pedlars goods.

Round this town there is as great a variety of natural bodies within the compass of four miles, as can be found in any one spot of that extent in England. On the descent of a steep stony hill, about a mile eastward from the town, the banks on each side are full of belemnities of very different kinds, nautilites of the ribbed sort, and others; and at the entrance of the town, a little
south

south of the road, there is a large quarry of hard blue stone, composed of masses of bivalve shells.

About a mile north of Wickwar is the village of CROMHALL, near which is Anchorite-hill, which received its name from its having formerly the cell of a hermit, the ruins of which are still visible. Here was some years ago discovered a chequered pavement, eighteen feet and a half long, and fifteen and a half broad, composed of white, red, blue and dark coloured cubical stones, alternately varied, and united by a strong cement. This was doubtless a work of the Romans.

WICKWAR, a very ancient corporation, three miles south-east of Sodbury, is governed by a mayor and aldermen. The town is well watered by two brooks, over one of which is a handsome stone bridge. The church is a large structure, adorned with battlements, and a lofty tower, ornamented with pinnacles. It has a free-school; and the neighbouring wastes afford the inhabitants plenty of coal. It has a market on Mondays, with two fairs, one on the 5th of April, and the other on the 2d of July, for horses and oxen.

Two miles north-east of Wickwar is KINGSWOOD, which is esteemed a village of Wiltshire, notwithstanding its being surrounded by Gloucestershire, and its deriving its name from the neighbouring forest. The inhabitants are employed in the clothing trade, which has rendered the village pretty large and populous. In the adjoining forest are coal-pits, from whence the coals are carried on horses to Bristol.

Two miles north-east of the last mentioned village is WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, which is seated under a pleasant and fruitful eminence, eighteen miles north-east of Bristol, and ninety-nine west of London. It is a pretty town, and has a handsome church, with a tower, adorned
with

with battlements and pinnacles; and in it are several monuments of the family of Berkeley. Here is a free-school, founded by lady Catharine, widow of Thomas lord Berkeley, in the year 1385. The town is supplied with water, which was brought hither at the expence of Hugh Perry, Esq; who was an alderman of London in 1632; and the same gentleman gave 1000 l. to erect and endow an alms-house for six poor men, and as many poor women. The town is governed by a mayor, who is annually chosen at the court leet of the earl of Berkeley, and has been long famous for being a clothing town. The market is held on Fridays, and there is a fair here on the 25th of September, for cattle and cheefe.

In the twenty-third year of king Edward the Third, a license was granted for founding here a house of crossed, or crouched friars, and endowing it with lands to the yearly value of 10 l.

John Biddle, an eminent Socinian writer of the seventeenth century, was born at this town on the 14th of January 1615. He was educated in the free-school of his native place, and in Magdalen hall, Oxford, where he took the degrees of bachelor and master of arts. In 1641, he was elected master of the free-school of Crypt in Gloucester; but having conceived some opinions in divinity, different from the received ones, and having been so imprudent as to express his sentiments on these subjects openly, he was accused of heresy, and deprived of his place. His heresy consisted in denying the equality of the three persons in the trinity. For this crime he was summoned before the parliament, who ordered his books to be burnt, and himself committed to close custody. In a word, after undergoing a variety of persecutions, being sometimes imprisoned, and
sometimes

sometimes banished, he died in jail September the 22d, 1662.

A mile and a half to the south-west of Wotton-Under-Edge is BOXWELL, which takes its name from the Box-trees that grow in its neighbourhood, and from a well, from which proceeds a brook, that afterwards becomes a small river, and joining another, falls into the Severn. The church is but a mean structure, with a small low spire. Here was a nunnery, which is said to have been destroyed by the Danes.

At LEYTERTON, a hamlet belonging to this parish, a barrow was opened about seventy years ago, in which were three vaults, containing urns filled with ashes.

ALDERLEY, a village, at a small distance to the south-east of Wotton-Under-Edge, is seated on the side of a hill, and bounded on the north and south by two small brooks. The church is small but has a tower, with pinnacles at the west end. Near this village have been found great quantities of stones in the form of cockles and oyster-shells; a variety of conjectures have been made concerning them; some supposing them to be *lusus naturæ*, while others believe, that they are really the shells of fish left here by the universal deluge.

Sir Mathew Hale, a man of great learning and integrity, and lord chief justice of the King's Bench, was born here on the first of November, 1609. He had his education in Magdalen-hall, Oxford, where he studied for some time with uncommon diligence; but, being corrupted by a set of stage-players, who came thither, he indulged himself in all the levities and extravagance of youth, till at last he was happily reclaimed by Mr. serjeant Glanvill. He then applied to the study of the law, and entered himself in Lincoln's-Inn, London. He was a particular favourite

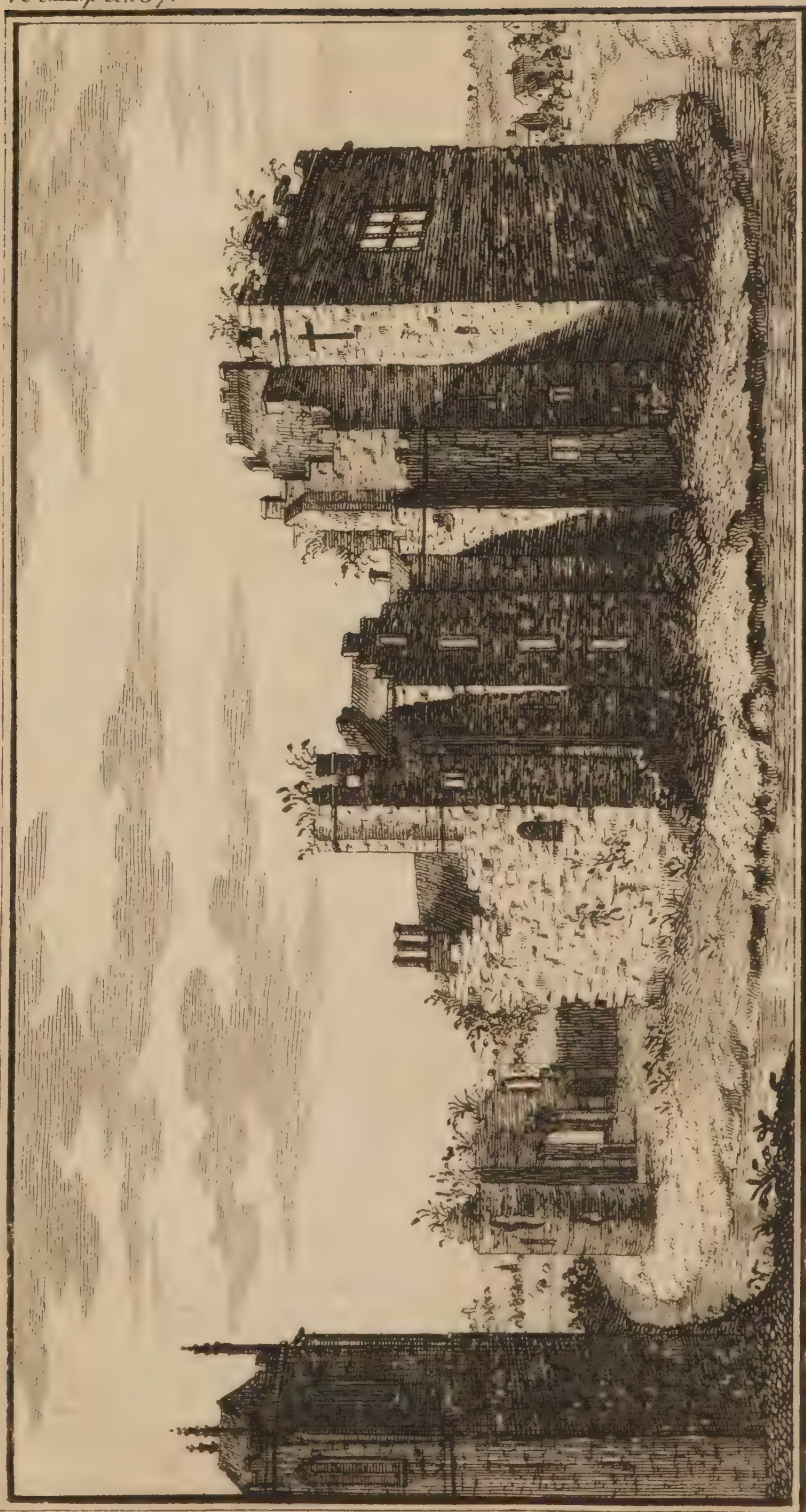
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rite of Noy, the attorney general, who directed him in his studies, as also of the famous Mr. Selden, who left him one of his executors. During the civil wars he behaved so well, as to gain the good will of both parties. By the royalists, especially, he was so much esteemed, that he was chosen one of the council to the earl of Strafford, archbishop Laud, and king Charles himself; as likewise to the duke of Hamilton, the earl of Holland, the lord Capel, and the lord Craven. After the death of his royal master, he took the engagement, and was appointed one of the justices of the Common Pleas; but, upon the death of Oliver Cromwell, he refused to accept of the new commission from his son, and successor, Richard. In the healing parliament, which restored king Charles the Second, he was returned one of the members for the county of Gloucester; and was, soon after, constituted lord chief baron of the Exchequer: but, in order to avoid the honour of knighthood, which was usually conferred upon persons in his station, he declined for some time waiting upon his majesty. The lord chancellor Hyde observing this circumstance, sent for him one day upon business, when the king was at his house; and on his coming, said to his majesty, "There is your modest chief baron;" upon which he was immediately knighted. In 1671, he was advanced to the important office of lord chief justice of the King's Bench, which he held about four years and a half, when, his health declining, he prudently resigned it. He died on the 25th of December, 1676, and was interred in Alderley church. He wrote books in law, physic, and divinity. His Pleas of the crown are greatly admired.

About five miles to the west of Wotton-Under-Edge is TETBURY, which is seated on a rising

The North View of Beverton Castle, in the County of Gloucester.

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rising ground, and in a healthy air, near the borders of Wiltshire, twenty-five miles north-east of Bristol, ten south-west of Cirencester, and ninety-three west of London. The chief inconvenience suffered by the inhabitants is the want of water in dry summers, when it is sometimes so dear, as to be sold for eighteen pence a hoghead. Here is a large handsome church, a free-school, and an alms-house for eight poor people; and at the end of the town is a very high bridge of considerable length, half of which is in Wiltshire. The revenues of the town are managed by a bailiff chosen annually. The market, which is on Wednesdays, is very considerable for yarn and wool, besides corn, cattle, cheese, malt, and other provisions; and there are two fairs, the first on Ash-Wednesday, and the other on the 22d of July, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

BEVERTON CASTLE is a mile north-west of Tetbury, and was formerly called Burestan, on account of the blue stones found hereabouts. The castle, of which we have given a view, is very ancient, and was of great strength, as appears from what remains, most of the walls being still standing; it is moated round, and has a tower at each corner. It now belongs to Sir Henry Hicks, Bart. In the civil wars it was fortified and defended sometimes by one party, and sometimes by the other. This place had a market and fair, granted by Edward the First, but they have been long disused. Some think this was a Roman station, because some years ago, in an adjoining field, there were found a great number of Roman coins, a large statue of stone, and a chequered and enamelled fibula vestiaria of amber.

About nine miles to the north-east of Tetbury is CIRENCESTER, commonly called CICETER, which took its name from its having been a cester
or

or castle upon the small river Churn, which falls into the Thames at Cricklade in Wiltshire. It is thirty-five miles east-north-east of Bristol, and seventy-nine west by north of London.

Cirencester is seated on the river Churn, over which it has a bridge, and is by some thought to be the oldest, and to have been formerly the largest town in the county. Its ancient name is *Durocornovium*, for, according to the itinerary, it was fourteen miles from *Clevum*. The course of the military way from Gloucester to Cirencester is certain, and in many places very visible and large. This town stands where the Roman way intersects and crosses the foss, and has still all the marks and evidences of a Roman station. It is said, that the emperor Constantine was crowned king of the Britons in this city; but this is not very certain: be that as it will, we know it was strongly fortified with walls and a castle in the time of the Romans; for there are the ruins of the walls and streets, in the adjoining meadows; and many Roman coins, chequered pavements, and inscriptions on marble, have been often found here.

A great part of the ground comprehended in the walls of this city is now pasture, corn fields or gardens. They dig up antiquities every day, especially in the gardens, and in the plain fields, such as Mosaic pavements, rings, intaglios, and innumerable coins; especially in a great garden, called Lewes grounds, which in Welch signifies a palace. Dr. Stukeley takes this to be the *Prætorium*, or head magistrate's quarters. Large quantities of carved stones are carried off yearly in carts for mending the highways, besides what are useful for building. A fine Mosaic pavement was dug up here in September 1723, with many coins. Dr. Stukeley bought a little head, which had been broke off from a basso relievo, that seems by the
tiara,

tiara, which is of a very odd shape, to be the genius of the city. The gardener told him, he had lately found a fine little brass image, which the Doctor supposes to be one of the lares. Mr. Bishop, owner of the garden, dug into a vault sixteen feet long and twelve broad, supported with square pillars of Roman brick, three feet and a half high; and on it was a strong floor of terras. There are several more vaults near it, on which grow cherry trees, like the hanging gardens of Babylon. These he takes to be the foundations of a temple, for in the same place were found several stones of the shafts of pillars, six feet long, and bases of stone, near as big in compass as his summer-house adjoining. These, with the cornices very handsomely moulded and carved with modillions, and the like ornaments, were converted into hog troughs. Some of the stones of the bases were fastened together with cramps of iron, inso-much, that they were forced to employ horses to draw them asunder; and they now lie before the door of his house as a pavement. Capitals of these pillars were likewise found, and a crooked cramp of iron, ten or twelve feet long, which probably was for the architraves of a circular portico.

About a quarter of a mile east of the town is a mount, or barrow, called Starbury, where several gold Roman coins have been dug up, of about the time of Julian.

Cirencester is governed by two high constables, and fourteen wardsmen, who are appointed yearly by the court-leet, and preside over the seven distinct wards of the town. It sends two members to parliament, and every house-keeper, not receiving alms, has a vote. It had once three parish churches, but has now only one, in which are twenty eight windows of painted glass, representing scripture history, and the history of several fathers

fathers and martyrs, with the religious orders of the church of Rome, from the pope to the mendicant friars. Here are also several meeting-houses of protestant dissenters; a free-school, and a charity-school for about ninety children, and several hospitals and alms-houses. Here are two markets, one on Mondays, for corn, cattle and provisions, and the other on Fridays. This last is one of the greatest markets in the kingdom for wool and woollen manufactures, there having been some years no less than 5000 packs of wool brought hither from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, and sold to the clothiers of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. Here are also three fairs, held on Easter-Tuesday, July 18, and November 8, for horned cattle, sheep, horses, wool, oil, and leather.

There was here a rich college of prebendaries before the conquest; and in 1117, king Henry the First built a stately abbey, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and this was so liberally endowed by him, and several succeeding kings, that at the dissolution it was valued at 1051 l. 7 s. a year. It had the privilege of a mitred abbey, and in the reign of Henry the Fifth, the abbot obtained a seat in the House of Lords. However, very little of the abbey is now remaining, except two old gatehouses.

An hospital, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, was likewise founded here by king Henry the First, for three poor men, and three poor women, which is yet in being; and each of these six persons has an allowance of one shilling and eight pence weekly, with a share in the fines, for the renewal of leases of the lands, with which the hospital is endowed, when they happen. St. Lawrence's hospital in this town was founded in the reign of Edward the Third, by Edith, lady of

of one Wigold, for a master and two poor women. The master was formerly nominated by the abbot, but is now presented by the king; and each of the two women is allowed about two shillings and sixpence a week. Besides these, there is St. Thomas's hospital, which was founded for four decayed weavers, by Sir William Nottingham, who died in the year 1427. This is yet in being, under the government of the weaver's company.

With respect to the history of this town, it will be proper to observe, that after the Romans left this island, the Britons defended themselves in this city against the West Saxons; till in the year 577, the rest of Briton being conquered, Gloucester, Bath, and this city submitted to the Saxons; but in the year 656, Penda, the first christian king of Mercia, took it from them. In 879, it was taken by the Danes, who built a tower here, now called Trismon tower, from the name of the general. Since the Norman conquest, and in the reign of king Stephen, Robert earl of Gloucester put a garrison in this town, when he attempted to restore Maud the empress to the throne.

In the barons wars against Henry the Third, this castle had a garrison put in it by them; but the king soon recovered it, and caused it to be demolished. In the reign of Henry the Fourth, Thomas Holland, duke of Surry, the earl of Salisbury, and other noblemen, retreating to Cirencester, and lodging in an inn, the bailiff of the town and townsmen assaulted the house, slew them, and sent their heads to London. For this service, Henry granted the inhabitants all the goods of the said noblemen, and their adherents, except money, plate, and jewels. He also granted to the men four does in the season, six bucks to the women,

women, and one hoghead of wine from Bristol. He likewise made the town a court of staple for merchandize, in consequence whereof it became a corporation, consisting of a mayor, two constables, and the commonalty; but this charter was cancelled in queen Elizabeth's reign. This town had also a share in the wars in the reign of Charles the First; for in it was committed the first act of rebellion in 1641, and in 1642 it was made a garrison for the parliament. Prince Rupert took it by storm, and made 1200 prisoners, but it was soon after retaken by the earl of Essex.

Nine miles north-east of Cirencester is NORTHLEACH, or NORTHLECHE, a small town, eighteen miles east of Gloucester, and eighty to the westward of London. It is so called from its situation upon the river Leache, and has a neat and spacious church, which has a large tower, with handsome windows. It has a good grammar-school, free to all the boys of the town; and endowed with 80*l.* a year, by Hugh Westwold, Esq; who being afterwards reduced, is said to have solicited the trustees to be master of it himself, but had the mortification to be denied. By a decree of chancery, in the reign of king James the First, this school was settled on Queen's College, Oxford. There are several alms-houses in this parish, but only one of note, built by Thomas Dutton, Esq; for six poor women, who have each twenty pence a week for their maintenance. There is here a market on Wednesdays, and three fairs, which are held on the Wednesday before April 23, for cows and sheep; on the Wednesday before September 29, for horses and small ware; and on the third Wednesday in May, for cheese and cattle. The famous Roman highway, called the Fosse, which comes out of Warwickshire,
enters

enters this county at Lemington, and passes thro' this town to Cirencester.

FARMINGTON, a village about a mile north of Northleach, is remarkable for having in the parish a large Roman camp, called Norbury, which is 850 paces long, and 4 3 broad ; but it is now a corn field ; and to the westward of it is a barrow.

Eight miles north-east of the last-mentioned town, is STOW ON THE WOULD, sixty seven miles north of Salisbury, and seventy-seven west by north of London. It stands so high, and is so much exposed to the winds, that the inhabitants are said to have but one element, there being neither wood, common, field, nor water, belonging to the town. The church, which is a large building, with a high tower, contains several monuments ; and as it stands on a hill, may be seen at a great distance. It has a free-school, an hospital, an alms-house, and other charitable foundations, all well endowed, the poor being very numerous. Here is a market on 'Thursdays, and two fairs ; one on the 12th of May, for horses, cows, sheep and cheese ; and the other on the 24th of October, for hops, saddlers, shoemakers and ironmongers goods. It is said, that 20,000 sheep have been sold at the former of these fairs. The Roman fosse-way passes by this town.

About three miles north of Stow is MORTON-IN-MARSH, which is situated twenty-nine miles east of Worcester, and eighty-three west-north-west of London. It extends two furlongs in length on the fosse-way, and is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to Worcester. About a mile from hence, in the London road, are the four shire stones, where the counties of Gloucester, Oxford, Worcester, and Warwick, meet. The church is only a chapel of ease, and is a small structure, with a tower at the west end. This town

town has a market on Tuesdays, and two small fairs; the first on the 5th of April, and the other on the 10th of October, for cattle.

About four miles to the northward of Morton-in-Marsh is **CAMPDEN**, or **CAMDEN**, a town of great antiquity, seated under the side of a hill, on the borders of Worcestershire, twenty-seven miles north of Leachlade, seventy-six north by east of Salisbury, and eighty-six west north-west of London. It was incorporated by king James the First, and is governed by two bailiffs, twelve burgesſes, and a steward, who have the power of choosing twelve inferior burgesſes. The church is a large and beautiful structure, with isles on each side, two chapels, a spacious chancel, and a handsome tower, 105 feet high. In this church are many fine marble monuments, the most sumptuous of which is supported by twelve pillars, and was erected in memory of Sir Baptist Hicks, viscount Campden, who erected an alms-house for six poor men, and as many women, with an allowance of three shillings and four-pence a week to each person, besides a black gown, and coals. He also rebuilt the market-house. There is likewise a grammar-school in this town, endowed with 60 l. a year, for the maintenance of the master and usher, with a charity-school, founded by James Thynne, who gave 1000 l. for erecting and endowing it, for the teaching of thirty poor girls to read, knit and spin, as well as to buy them cloaths; and the mistress 10 l. a year for instructing them. There are also many gifts of bread to be distributed weekly to the poor, namely, six dozen every Sunday, besides 40 l. 10 s. a year, to be laid out in bread at discretion. There are some remains of a seat built here by lord Campden, which the royalists burnt down in the civil wars, to prevent its being a garrison for the parliament.

This

This town now gives the title of baron to Charles Pratt, lord high chancellor of Great Britain; and is famous for the manufacture of stockings. It has a market on Wednesdays, and four fairs, which are held on Ash-Wednesday, the 23d of April, the 25th of July, and the 3d of November, for horses, cows, sheep, linen-cloth, and stockings. This town was formerly a place of such consequence, that the Saxon kings, in the time of the heptarchy, met here, to consult about making war and peace with the Britons.

TODDINGTON is a village six miles south by west of Camden, once famous for a Cistercian abbey, of which there are now no remains, except a neat cloyster. It was founded by Richard, earl of Cornwall, king of the Romans, who placed in it twenty Cistercian monks.

Two miles to the south of Toddington, and nine to the south-west of Camden, is WINCH-COMB, which was anciently a county of itself, and was a borough in the reign of king Edward the Confessor. It contains about 300 houses, and has an alms-house for twelve poor women. The inhabitants made great profit of planting tobacco, till they were restrained in the twelfth year of king Charles the Second, from which time the town decayed by little and little, and is now poor and inconsiderable. The church is only a curacy, but is a large structure, covered with lead, and has a lofty tower, adorned with battlements and pinnacles, two handsome isles, and a spacious chancel. The town has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on May 16, and July 28, for horses, sheep, and horned cattle.

Offa, king of the Mercians, is said to have built a nunnery here in 787; but Kenulph, king of Mercia, in 798, converted it into an abbey for 300 Benedictine monks, and dedicated it to the

Virgin Mary. It had great revenues, and the abbot was mitred. Its lands being afterwards alienated, Oswald, bishop of Worcester, in 985, recovered the lands, reformed the discipline of the monks, and dedicated the house to St. Kenulph, the martyred son of the founder. The last abbot was a great stickler for the privileges of the church, and maintained, that the taking away the benefit of the clergy from murderers, was against the law of God.

SUDLEY, or SEWDLEY, is a village about a mile east of Winchcomb. The church was formerly a neat and beautiful structure, but was so defaced and ruined in the civil wars, that only a part of it can be used for divine service. There are here the remains of a castle, which was built, or as others say, repaired and enlarged, by Ralph de Boteler, lord treasurer, who was created baron of Sewdley, in the twentieth year of the reign of king Henry the Sixth, but he having no issue male, sold it to king Edward the Fourth, so that it continued in the crown till the reign of queen Mary the First, when Sir John Bruges, or Bridges, married an heiress of the family of Chandois, and was by this queen created baron of Sewdley; in which noble family the honour of this barony still remains; but George lord Chandois, a descendant of the former, having no heir male, gave the manor to his wife Jane, daughter of John, earl of Rivers; who married George Pitt, Esq; of Stratfield in Hampshire, whose son George is now lord thereof. A great part of the walls of the castle are demolished, but there are two towers still standing, with apartments between. Of this structure we have given a view engraved on copper.

HALES-ABBEY, which is situated about two miles to the northward of Winchcomb, was built by Richard Plantagenet, second son of king John,
and



The South West View of Sewdley Castle, in the County of Gloucester.

and brother to king Henry the Third, earl of Cornwall, and king of the Romans, pursuant to a vow he had made when in extreme danger at sea, he placed in it Cistercian monks, and dedicated it to St. Mary, and all the saints. It was consecrated with unusual pomp in the presence of the king, queen, a great number of the nobility, and 300 knights, by Walter Cantilupe, bishop of Worcester and thirteen other bishops assisting.

Edward, the son of the founder of this monastery, was said to have given some of the blood of Christ thereto; and the monks gave it out, that if a man had committed a mortal sin, and was not absolved, he could not see the blood; but as soon as he was absolved he might plainly discern it. This they made a great advantage of for many ages; for when the sinner was not to see the blood, they placed a very thick glass before it, till he had paid for as many masses as they pleased, at a great price; and then they changed the glass for one that was thin and transparent, and it appeared to his great joy. This blood at the dissolution was found to be the blood of a duck, renewed every week. This abbey was governed by a mitred abbot, and was valued at 357 l. a year. The ruins of the walls shew that it was of great extent, and part of it is converted into one or more dwelling-houses.

Five miles south-west of Winchcomb is CHELTENHAM, which takes its name from its being situated on a brook called the Chilt, which falls into the Severn, and is situated nine miles north-east of Gloucester, thirty-eight south-west of Warwick, and ninety-five west-north-west of London. The town contains about 300 houses, and has a church built in the form of a cross, with isles on each side, and a high spire in the middle. An hospital and school were erected here in the year

1578, the former of which is to maintain six poor people, each of whom is allowed a shilling a week. The remaining part of the endowment is given to the school-master and usher, which is 60*l.* a year. Mr. Walwen also gave 50*l.* a year to the poor of this place, which is employed in binding out poor children apprentices, and in occasional charities.

This town is most famous for its mineral spring, but it is not now so much in request as it was a few years ago. It was said to be discovered by pigeons, who flocked to eat the salt, after the water was evaporated by the heat of the sun. But of this water we have already given a very particular account, after treating of the rivers of this county. We shall therefore only add, that this town carries on a considerable trade in malt, and has a market on Thursdays, with three fairs, held on the second Thursday in April, and on Holy-Thurday, for all sorts of cattle; and also on the 5th of August, for lambs.

About six miles to the north-west of Cheltenham is TEWKSBURY, a pretty large and populous town, situated at the conflux of the Severn, with the Avon that runs out of Warwickshire; which rivers, with the smaller streams of the Carron and the Swallgate, almost encompass the town. It stands fifteen miles south of Worcester, ten north of Gloucester, forty-six north-east of Bristol, and ninety-six west-north-west of London. It received its first privileges from king Edward the Second; these were confirmed by several of the succeeding kings; and the town was at length reincorporated by king James the First. Tewksbury is governed by twenty-four burgesses, two of whom are annually chosen bailiffs, who are the ruling magistrates, and have jurisdiction within the borough, exclusive of the justices of the peace for the

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the county. These magistrates, together with the freeholders and freemen, who amount to about 500, choose the members to serve in parliament. It is a large, beautiful, and populous town, consisting of three well built streets, and many lanes. It has a bridge over three of the four rivers that run by it, and a church, which is a large, noble structure, with two handsome turrets at each end, and a stately tower, also adorned with turrets. The communion table consists of one entire piece of marble, thirteen feet eight inches long, and three feet and a half broad, and stands in the middle of the choir. This structure is adorned with a number of funeral monuments, particularly several of the earls of Gloucester and Warwick, prince Edward, the son of Henry the Sixth, and the duke of Clarence, brother to Edward the Fourth. Here are also several meeting-houses of dissenters, and a free-school, erected by William Ferrers, in 1675, who gave 20 l. a year for the maintenance of a master, to which several other benefactors have made considerable additions. Here is also an hospital, endowed with 40 l. a year by the late queen Mary, to be paid out of the Exchequer, for the maintenance of thirteen poor people, and a reader, who is appointed by the corporation; and in the church-yard is an almshouse for ten poor widows, but without any endowments. All writers who give an account of this town, take notice of its excellent mustard balls, but none have been made here time out of mind, though there doubtless were formerly. This town was also once famous for its woollen manufacture, but now it has one of knit cottons. It has a market on Saturdays, and five fairs, which are held on March 7, May 14, June 22, September 4, and October 10, for tanned leather, cattle, and pedlary.

Tewksbury was formerly famous for its monastery, built by two brothers, Odo and Dodo, who were then dukes of great account in the kingdom of Mercia. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at first only endowed with the manor of Stanway. Hugh, earl of Mercia, was the patron of this priory in the year 800, and Bricktric, king of the West Saxons, was buried here. Robert Fitz-Haimon, in the year 1102, new built it, and made great endowments, advancing it to an abbey. His daughter Mabilla, wife of Robert, earl of Gloucester, built the priory of St. James's at Bristol, and subjected it to this abbey. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hereford, with several of the families of the Despencers and Beauchamps, were great benefactors to it, some of whom are buried here; it was valued at the suppression at 1598 l. a year. The church is still standing, and is now the parish church above described.

This place is also famous for a bloody battle fought here, between the two houses of York and Lancaster, when Edward the Fourth entirely defeated Henry the Sixth, taking the queen, prince Edward, and many of the nobility who sided with Henry prisoners. The young prince, who was but eighteen years of age, being brought into the king's tent, appeared before him with an undaunted countenance; and Edward asking him, how he came to be so rash as thus to enter his kingdom in arms; he bravely replied, "That he came to recover his own inheritance, which had been unjustly usurped." On which the king, instead of admiring his intrepidity, struck him on the mouth with his gauntlet, and turning from him withdrew, when the dukes of Clarence and Gloucester, the king's brothers, the earl of Dorset, and the lord Hastings, stepped up to the young prince, and barbarously

barbarously stabbed him with their daggers ; after which, that party was never able to make head again.

DEERHURST, a village two miles south of Tewksbury, with a parish belonging to it, lies very low, and often receives damage from the overflowing of the Severn. It had formerly a small but very ancient monastery, built by Dodo, a great nobleman of Mercia, about the year 715, in memory of his brother Almeric, buried in this place. It was afterwards destroyed by the Danes, and lay for many years in a low condition, but was rebuilt, and again inhabited before the year 980. King Edward the Confessor gave it, with all the lands belonging to it, to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Dennis in France, to which it became a cell. At length Henry the Sixth being at war with France, would not suffer it to be under the patronage of the abbey of St. Dennis, and gave this cell to the abbey of Tewksbury. In the nineteenth year of Henry the Sixth, that prince founded the college of Eton near Windsor, and gave most of the lands belonging to this monastery to that college.

Besides the eminent persons already mentioned, the following great men have been born in this county.

Sebastian Benetfield, an eminent divine of the seventeenth century, was born at Prestonbury, on the 12th of August, 1559. He was educated at Corpus Christi College in Oxford ; and after having taken the degrees of master of arts, and doctor in divinity, was chosen Margaret professor in that university. He filled the divinity-chair with great reputation, for the space of fourteen years, when he thought proper to resign it, in order to retire to the rectory of Meysey-Hampton in Gloucestershire, to which he had lately been col-

lated. He died in the parsonage house of that parish August the 24th, 1630. Dr. Benefield wrote several works, consisting chiefly of sermons and expositions of the scripture.

William Cartwright, an eminent divine and poet of the seventeenth century, was born at Northway, near Tewksbury, in this county, in the month of September 1611. He had his education, first at the free-school in Cirencester, afterwards at Westminster-school, and lastly, at Christ's church, Oxford, of which he was entered a student in 1628. Having taken the degrees in arts, he entered into holy orders, and became a most popular and eloquent preacher. He was afterwards appointed succentor in the church of Salisbury, and metaphysical reader to the university. He died December the 23d, 1643, in the thirty-third year of his age. He wrote four plays, besides other poems.

Edward Chamberlayne, author of *The Present State of England*, and of several other works, was descended from an eminent and ancient family, and born at Odington, in Gloucestershire, December the 13th, 1616. He was educated at Gloucester, and at St. Edmund-hall in Oxford, where he took the degrees of bachelor and master of arts; and in 1641 was appointed rhetoric reader of the university. During the civil wars he travelled into foreign parts. After the restoration, he was chosen a fellow of the Royal Society; appointed tutor to Henry, duke of Grafton, one of the natural sons of king Charles the Second; and afterwards became instructor in the English tongue, to George, prince of Denmark. He died at Chelsea, near London, in 1703. One remarkable circumstance in his will may be worth mentioning. He ordered some books of his own composition to be covered with wax, and to be
buried

buried with him; which (as he said) may possibly be of use to future ages.

Sir Robert Atkins, lord chief baron of the Exchequer, was descended of a very ancient family in this county where he was born, in the year 1621. He had his education in Baliol-college, Oxford. On account of his sufferings during the civil wars, he was, on the restoration of king Charles the Second, made knight of the Bath, together with many other persons of distinction. In 1672, he was appointed one of the judges of the court of Common-Pleas, in which honourable station he continued till 1679, when, foreseeing the troubles that soon after ensued, he thought fit to resign, and retire into the country. In 1689, he was made lord chief baron of the exchequer; and about the same time executed the office of speaker to the House of Lords, which had been previously refused by the marquis of Hallifax. He died in the beginning of 1709, in the 88th year of his age. He was the author of several tracts; all of them of the political kind; which were afterwards collected and published in one volume.

Richard Atkins, author of some pieces, particularly of a *Treatise concerning the Origin and Growth of Printing*, was descended of a good family seated at Tuffleigh in Gloucestershire. After having studied about two years at Oxford, he travelled into France, with a son of lord Arundel of Wardour; but that young gentleman in a little time dying, he returned home; and, upon the breaking out of the civil wars, raised at his own expence a troop of horse for the service of king Charles the First. After the restoration he was appointed one of the deputy-lieutenants of Gloucestershire; but having run himself in debt, he was committed prisoner to the Marshalsea goal in Southwark, where he died September the 14th,

1677, and was buried in the church of St. George the Martyr.

Edward Fowler, bishop of Gloucester, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was born at Westerleigh in this county, in the year 1632. He had his education at the college-school in Gloucester, and afterwards at Corpus Christi college in Oxford, from whence he removed to Cambridge, where, having taken the degrees of bachelor and master of arts, he was presented to the rectory of North-hill in Bedfordshire. Having been educated in the Presbyterian way, he scrupled embracing, for some time, the terms of conformity at the restoration ; but he afterwards conformed, and became a great ornament to the church. In 1673, he was collated to the rectory of Allhallows, Bread-street, in London, and soon after to the vicarage of St. Giles's, Cripplegate. During the struggle between Protestantism and Popery, he signalized himself by his writings and sermons. After the revolution he was promoted to the bishopric of Gloucester ; and in this see he continued till his death, which happened at Chelsea, August 26, 1714. He published a variety of tracts in defence of the Christian religion.

Robert Huntington, a learned divine of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was the second son of Robert Huntington, minister of Deorhyrst in Gloucestershire, and was born there in February 1636. Having finished his studies at Merton college in Oxford, where he rendered himself a complete master of the oriental languages, he was chosen chaplain to the English factory at Aleppo ; for which place he set sail in 1670. During his residence there, which was for the space of eleven years, he employed himself chiefly in collecting oriental manuscripts, of which

which he amassed a very great number. He likewise visited Jerusalem and Palmyra; and travelled over almost all Galilee and Samaria. Upon his return to his native country, he took the degrees of bachelor and doctor in divinity; was appointed master of Trinity college in Dublin, and elected bishop of Raphoe in Ireland, to which he was consecrated August the 20th, 1701. But he did not long enjoy his new dignity; for he died on the 2d of September of the same year, twelve days after his consecration. His manuscripts were sold to the Bodleian library for 700 l.

John Oldham, styled the *English Juvenal*, was the son of John Oldham, a non-conformist minister, and born at Shipton in Gloucestershire, August the 9th, 1653. After finishing his studies at Oxford, he became usher of the free-school at Croyden; where he received a visit from the earls of Rochester and Dorset, Sir Charles Sedley, and other persons of distinction, merely upon the reputation of some verses of his, which they had seen in manuscript. Upon his quitting that school, he acted as tutor to several gentlemen's children; and then coming up to London, fell into the acquaintance of Mr. Dryden, and of all the other wits and geniusses of the age. He resided, for the most part, with the earl of Kingston, at Holme-Pierpoint in Nottinghamshire, where being seized with the small-pox, he was carried off by that fatal disease, December the 9th, 1683, when he had hardly yet attained to his thirtieth year. His works are numerous.

Joseph Trapp, an excellent scholar and pious divine, in the beginning of the present century, was the son of a clergyman, and born, in the year 1679, at Cherrington in Gloucestershire. He received his education at Wadham-college, Oxford,

ford, of which he became a fellow. The first specimen he gave of his abilities, was his tragedy called *Abramule*, or *Love and Empire*, which was brought upon the stage in 1704. About four years after he was appointed professor of poetry in the university of Oxford, being the first person who discharged that honourable office; and the lectures, which he read in Latin, were published in 8vo. At the expiration of his professorship, which is limited to ten years, he removed to the metropolis, and was chosen lecturer of St. Martin's in the Fields, Westminster. He was afterwards made rector of Harlington in Middlesex, and vicar of the united parishes of Christ-church in Newgate-street, and St. Leonard's Foster-lane in London. And all these benefices he enjoyed till his death, which happened on the 22d of November 1747. He translated Virgil into English verse, and Milton's *Paradise Lost* into Latin. He likewise wrote among other pieces a poem, intitled, *The Four last Things*; or *Death and Judgment, Heaven and Hell*. His taste as a critic is universally allowed; but his genius as a poet is not so generally admitted.



H A M P S H I R E.

HAMPSHIRE, or the county of Hants, was called by the Saxons Ham-tunscyre, from Hampton, since called Southampton, the county town. It was afterwards called Hamteschyre, and hence its present names of Hampshire and Hants are derived. This county is bounded on the north by Berkshire; on the east by Surry and Suffex; on the south by the British channel; and on the west by Dorsetshire and Wiltshire; it extending sixty-four miles in length from north to south, and thirty-six in breadth from east to west, without including the Isle of Wight, and is 150 miles in circumference. The city of Winchester, which is seated nearly in the centre of the county, is sixty-seven miles south-west of London.

At the invasion of the Romans, a great part of this county was possessed by the Regni and the Belgæ. The former were a tribe of the ancient Britons, and the Belgæ a people of Germany, who, on passing the Rhine, possessed themselves of part of Gaul, and then sailed over to the south-west coast of Briton, in order to plunder the inhabitants, and carry back their spoil; but liking the country, they drove the Britons out of the places, long after called Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and the inland parts of Hampshire, of which they took possession, and were found there by Caesar when he made his expedition into Britain.

This county is thought to be the first that submitted to the Romans. Though less than many others in England, it had, according to some authors, six Roman stations, called Calleva, Vindoma, Venta, Belgarum, Claucentum, Brige, and Cunitio. We are informed by Dr. Stukeley, that a Roman road runs parallel to the great Ikening street, from the south-west to the north-east, beginning at the sea-coast by Rumsey in this county, and ending at the sea-coast in Suffolk. Indeed the remains of the town of Sylchester, with the Roman coins dug up in many other parts, are sufficient evidence that this county had many Roman settlements.

When the Saxons invaded the island, the inhabitants kept it sixty years after the first landing of Hengist; but Cerdic, the founder of the kingdom of the West-Saxons, landing at Chardford, in the beginning of the sixth century, reduced all the southern shore, as far as the country of the Damnonii, to his authority. The posterity of Cerdic ruled the whole country of the Belgae for several generations; but at length this county was taken from it, and, for a time, rendered a petty kingdom. In the reign of king Ethelbert, and the year 860, the Danes invading the Isle of Wight, ravaged all before them as far as Winchester; but as they were returning, Osric, earl of Hampton, assisted by the men of Berkshire, defeated them, and recovered the spoils. After the Saxons had been settled some time in these parts, they divided the country of the Belgae into three counties, namely, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire.

The air of Hampshire is almost in every part of it pure and healthy, especially in the fine Downs, which extend across the county from east to west, and divide it nearly into equal parts; it is even observed, that the vapours in the low grounds

grounds next the sea are less pernicious than those in other countries, and the air much more healthy than the hundreds of Essex, and the marshy parts of Kent.

The low lands produce a great quantity of corn, particularly wheat and barley; but the hilly parts, which are less fertile, are only fit for sheep. The horned cattle here have nothing remarkable, but the sheep and hogs excel all others in England; for both the wool and the flesh of the sheep are remarkably fine; and the hogs being never put into styes, but supplied with great plenty of acorns, which they find in the woods, the bacon made of them is greatly superior to any other in this kingdom. The county of Hants is likewise famous for its honey, it being said to produce both the best and the worst in England; for that of the champain country is esteemed the best, and the honey collected from the heath is reckoned the worst. It has more wood than any other county in England, especially oak, and hence the greatest part of the English navy is built and repaired with the timber that grows here. This county is abundantly supplied with game of all kinds, as well as with sea and river fish, the former yielding large quantities of soals, flounders, crabs and lobsters; so that the inhabitants enjoy the greatest plenty of the necessaries and conveniencies of life.

The principal rivers of this county are the Avon, the Teste, and the Itching. The Avon rises in Wiltshire, and passes thro' Salisbury, where it begins to be navigable: it enters Hampshire at a village named Charford, and running southward by Ringwood to Christchurch, receives the Stour, a considerable river, from Dorsetshire, and then falls into the British channel.

The Tese, or Test, rises in the north part of Hampshire, and running southward forms several islands at Stockbridge; and then passing by Rumsey, falls into an arm of the sea called Southampton-bay, which reaches several miles up the country.

The Itching, also called the Alre, has its source at Chilton Candover, a village near Alresford, from whence it runs south-west to the city of Winchester, and from thence flows directly south till it discharges itself into Southampton-bay. This river was made navigable from Winchester to Southampton, so early as the reign of William the Conqueror.

Among the uncommon plants growing wild in this county are the following.

Marsh St. Peter's worth with woolly leaves, *Ascyrum supinum villosum palustre*, C. B. Park. On a rotten moorish ground not far from Southampton, abundantly.

The great English marsh fox-tail grass, *Alopecurus maxima Anglica*, Park. *Altera maxima Anglica paludosa*, Ger. In the moist pastures of this county.

The least English black bindweed, *Cissampelos altera Anglica minima*, Park. This grows about Drayton near Portsmouth. It differs little from the common black bindweed but in the smallness of its parts; which may be owing to the barrenness of the soil.

True oak fern, *Dryopteris penae & lobelli*, Ger. emac. p. 1135. Found in a very wet bog, called White-row-moor, a mile from Petersfield.

English low sea-heath, *Erica maritima Anglica supina*, Park. Found about Portsmouth.

English sea-tree-mallow, *Malva arborea marina nostras*, Park. About Hurst-castle, near the Isle of Wight.

French mercury, the male and female, *Mercurialis mas & fœmina*, J. B. *vulgaris mas & fœmina*, Park. On the beech near Ryde in the Isle of Wight, plentifully.

Bugloss cowslips, or long leaved sage of Jerusalem, *Pulmonaria foliis echii*, Ger. *rubro flore foliis echii*, J. B. Found in a wood by Holbury-house in the new forest.

Horned rampions, with a round head of flowers, *Rapunculus corniculatus montanus*, Ger. *flore globofo purpureo*, J. B. Found in the enclosed chalky hilly grounds by Maple-Durham, near Petersfield in Hampshire.

This county, exclusive of the Isle of Wight, is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, in which are contained one city, and twenty market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and the diocese of Winchester, and contains 253 parishes. It also sends twenty-six members to parliament, including those sent by the Isle of Wight, namely, two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesses for each of the following towns, Southampton, Portsmouth, Newport in the Isle of Wight, Yarmouth in the same island, Newton also in the same island, Lymington or Lemington, Christchurch, Andover, Whitchurch, Petersfield, and Stockbridge.

We shall enter this county by the London road to Portsmouth, where the first place of any consequence is PETERSFIELD, which is situated eighteen miles to the northward of Portsmouth, and fifty-five south-west of London: it is a pretty large town incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and governed by a mayor and commonalty; yet the town has given up all its privileges to the family of the Hamborrows, who are lords of the manor, and at whose court the mayor is now annually

nually chosen. The town is populous and pretty well built, and being a great thoroughfare, is well supplied with inns. It sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the freeholders within and without the borough. It has one church, which is only a chapel of ease, and the market is on Saturdays. It has also two fairs, which are held on the 10th of July, and the 11th of December, for sheep and horses. The hills between this town and Southwick, a village near Fareham, are called Portsdown, and the roads over them are very dirty in wet weather.

From Petersfield a road extends about eight miles south to HAVANT, a village that was formerly a market town, and has still two fairs, one on the 22d of June, and the other on the 17th of October, for toys.

To the southward of Havant and the east of Portsmouth lie HALING and THORNEY, two small islands, each of which has a parish church; and the inhabitants are employed at several places along the shore in making salt.

About fourteen miles to the south-west of Petersfield is PORTSMOUTH, which receives its name from its situation at the port or mouth of a gulph, which here runs within the land, and at high tide surrounds a small tract of country, about fourteen miles in circumference, called Portsea island. It is seated twenty-two miles south-east of Winchester, and seventy-three south-west of London. Portsmouth may be termed the key of England, and indeed is the only regular fortification in this kingdom. These works were begun by Edward the Fourth, and augmented by Henry the Seventh and Eighth: queen Elizabeth was at such expence in improving them, that nothing was thought wanting to render them compleat; but king Charles the Second, added to
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their strength, extent and magnificence, and rendered this one of the principal harbours in England for laying up the royal navy. He also caused it to be furnished with wet and dry docks, store-houses, rope-yards, and every thing necessary for building, repairing, rigging, arming, victualling, and completely fitting for sea, ships of war of all rates. The fortifications and accommodations of this place, for the sea service, have since been enlarged and improved. Here are immense quantities of cables, masts, great guns, bullets, bombs, carcasses, mortars, and granadoes of all sorts and sizes. The rope-house, which is 170 feet long, is one continued room. The largest cables are made here, and require a hundred men to work one of them, and the labour is so extremely hard, that they are employed but four hours in a day.

Here all our fleets of force, and all squadrons appointed as convoys to our trade homeward or outward bound, constantly rendezvous, the harbour being so spacious and secure, that a thousand sail may ride in perfect safety. The mouth of this harbour, which is scarce so broad as the river Thames at Westminster, is on the Portsmouth side defended by a fort, called South-sea Castle, erected by king Henry the Eighth, and situated about a mile and a half south of the town. This castle is defended by a good counterscarp, a double moat, ravelins and double pallisadoes, besides an advanced work to cover the place: but in August 1759, part of this fort was accidentally blown up, and the rest greatly damaged. On the Gosport side, the mouth of the harbour is defended by four forts, and a platform of above twenty great guns level with the water. On the land side, the town is fortified by works lately raised about the docks and yards, and the government has, within these
few

few years, purchased more ground for additional works.

The harbour is so secure from winds, that they cannot blow from any part of the compass to the detriment of the ships at anchor in it; and is so deep, that a first rate man of war can ride at the lowest ebb, without touching the ground; besides, there is a boom or chain at its entrance, which in case of danger, may be raised and fastened immediately on both sides, so as to stop any naval force; and if attacked by sea, the enemies ships must come directly under South-sea castle, and afterwards be exposed to a long train of canon from the town and block-house, which must rake them fore and aft for a mile together, before they reach the mouth of the haven.

One great convenience, with respect to the harbour of Portsmouth, is the safe and spacious road of Spithead, which lies between Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and is about twenty miles in length, and in some places three in breadth. It is defended from all winds that blow from the west to the south-east, by the high lands of the Isle of Wight, and from the winds of the opposite quarter, by the main land of Hampshire, the town of Portsmouth fronting the middle of the road. The bottom is perfectly sound and good, and the flux and reflux of the sea repairs all the injuries done by the anchors. The limits of this road are exactly distinguished by buoys properly placed.

Within the yard are handsome dwelling-houses, with all proper accommodations for a commissioner of the navy, and all the subordinate officers and master workmen, necessary for the constant service of the navy day and night; and the contents of the yards and storehouses are laid up in such exact order, that the workmen can readily
find

find any implement they want, even in the dark. The quantities of all kinds of military and naval stores laid up here are immense; and the number of men continually employed in the yard is never less than a thousand. The docks and yards seem a distinct town, and form a kind of marine corporation within themselves.

However, the town being nearly on a level with the sea, is full of ditches, which it was found necessary to cut as drains, and the inhabitants are very liable to agues. The streets are most commonly very dirty; and both the inns and taverns perpetually crowded with seamen and soldiers. The church is a large and handsome structure, and has a bell at the top of the tower, which is rung to give an account of the number of ships that enter the port; and from a watch-house on the top of the steeple, is a fine prospect of all the ships in the harbour, as well as those at Spithead. The deputy governor has a very handsome house, with a neat chapel, and there a fine new quay for laying up the canon. Portsmouth is, however, in great want of fresh water; and tho' the adjacent country abounds with all sorts of provisions, yet, from the very great consumption of them in this town, they are very dear, as are also lodging and firing.

As the town is walled round, and will not admit of any enlargement, from the increase of business, and the great concourse of people thither, a kind of suburb has been built on the heathy ground adjoining, which is like to exceed the town itself, the situation being more pleasant and healthy, and the inhabitants not being subject to the laws of the garrison, nor incumbered with the duties and services of the corporation. This suburb has a church, a chapel, and several meeting-houses.

At Portsmouth Peter de Rupibus founded an hospital, called God's house, dedicated to St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas, which was valued at the dissolution at 33*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* per annum.

Portsmouth was last incorporated by king Charles the First, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, a recorder, bailiffs, and common-council. It sends two members to parliament, and has two markets held on Thursdays and Saturdays, as also a fair on the 10th of July, for shoemakers, hatters, milliners, mercers, cutlers, cabinet-makers, linen and woollen drapers, silversmiths, ready made cloaths, and furniture for beds. This fair lasts fourteen days.

At this place the empress Maud landed, when she came to contend for the crown with king Stephen. In the reign of Richard the Second, Portsmouth was burnt by the French, but it recovered so much in six years time, that the inhabitants fitted out a fleet, which beat the French at sea, as they were returning to insult the coast a second time, and then steering to France, entered the river Seine, sunk several ships, and brought off a great booty. At first the town was fortified with a timber wall, lined with earth, and there was a high mount at the north-east, near the gate; but king Edward the Fourth built two forts of free-stone at the entrance of the harbour, and king Henry the Seventh made it a garrison. On the 3d of July, 1760, a dreadful fire broke out at twelve in the morning, in the dock-yard, in a fine pile of building, in the lower part of which were pitch, tar, oil and turpentine; in the upper, canvass, sails, and cables: the next storehouse was the spinning-house, and above it hemp; the next where the bell hung was a long lane piled up with decayed stores: the next to that were the rope-makers laying-walk, and
tarring-

tarring-walk, over which were sails, canvasses, and ropes. The flames raged with such fury, that all these buildings were destroyed. It rained very hard all that night, and it is thought the stores caught fire by the lightening, which was very terrible, the atmosphere appearing all on a blaze. In the warehouses that were consumed, had been deposited 1050 tons of hemp, 500 tons of cordage, and about 700 sails, besides many hundred barrels of tar and oil; yet with all this devastation, such was the diligence exerted, and such the quantity of stores at Chatham and in other magazines, that the loss was soon supplied without much affecting our public concerns, tho' in the midst of a heavy, glorious, and expensive war.

GOSPORT is situated on the other side of the mouth of the harbour, opposite to Portsmouth, at the distance of 74 miles from London; but tho' on a different side of the harbour, and in a different parish, is generally considered as a part of Portsmouth, it being with respect to that town what Southwark is to London, except their not being united by a bridge; boats are, however, continually passing from one to the other. Gosport is a town of considerable extent, and has a great trade. It is chiefly inhabited by the sailors and their wives, and the warrant officers; travelers also generally choose to lodge here, because every thing is considerably cheaper, and more convenient, than at Portsmouth. Here is a free-school, and a noble hospital for the cure of the sick and wounded sailors, in the service of the navy. It has a market on Thursdays, and two fairs, held on the 4th of May, and the 10th of October, for toys.

PORCHESTER is a village five miles south-west of Portsmouth, and, according to tradition,
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is the place where Vespasian, the Roman emperor, first landed in England. Here was formerly a large harbour, defended by a castle, but the sea gradually retiring from it, the inhabitants removed from hence to Portsea. The walls of Porchester castle are still standing, and shew it has been a strong place, very fit for the purpose for which it was designed. The body of the castle is in the middle; and at a small distance on each side are two round towers, and a little farther two square ones, one of which hath a gateway. Of these we have given a plate. These towers have a fine view of the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and Gosport.

King Henry the First founded at Portchester a priory of canons of the order of St. Augustine, which appears to have been soon after removed to Southwek, where it continued till the dissolution of religious houses, when it was valued at 257 l. 4 s. 4 d. a year.

Between two and three miles north-west of Portchester is FAREHAM, a small and pleasant town, sixty-five miles west by south of London, but is of little note. It has a market on Wednesdays, and a fair on the 29th of July, for toys.

About six miles to the north of Fareham is BISHOPS WALTHAM, by a corrupt abbreviation BUSH WALTHAM, its receiving the name of bishop from its having formerly a palace of the bishop of Winchester. It has a charity-school, but neither market nor fair.

From hence, proceeding two miles west in the road to Southampton, you come to TITCHFIELD, a village eight miles south-east of Southampton, where, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, was a monastery founded by Peter de Rupibus, bishop of the diocese. He endowed it with several lands and revenues, and king Henry the Third granted the monks some extraordinary privileges.



The North West View of Porchester Castle, in Hampshire.

villeges. It was valued at the dissolution at 250 l. a year by Dugdale ; but by Speed, at 280 l. Titchfield has four fairs, viz. on the Saturday fortnight before Lady-day, May 14, for toys ; on September 25, for hiring servants, and on Saturday fortnight before St. Thomas's day, for toys.

SOUTHAMPTON was anciently called Hantun, from its being seated on a bay, in ancient times named Frisanton, or the bay of Anton, now called Southampton-water ; but at length it took the name of South-Hanton, or Hampton, to distinguish it from Hampton and Northampton. It is situated between the rivers Teste and Itching, twenty-five miles south-east of Salisbury, twelve south of Winchester, and seventy-eight west by south of London. This is the county town of Hampshire. It was incorporated by king Henry the Second and king John ; after which king Henry the Sixth made it a county of itself, which renders it independant of the lord lieutenant of the county. By its last charter, granted by king Charles the First, the corporation consists of a mayor, a recorder, a sheriff, and two bailiffs ; all those who have served any of the foregoing offices constitute the common-council, which consequently is unlimited ; but the corporation have a power of chusing burgessees, who, though not members of the common-council, are yet of the corporation, and have votes. There are eleven justices of the peace, viz. the mayor for the time being, the bishop of Winchester, the recorder, the last mayor, five aldermen, and two burgessees. All who have passed the chair are aldermen. The corporation have several officers, as a town clerk ; four serjeants at mace ; a town cryer, &c. The mayor and bailiffs have a court for the recovery of small debts. In the Guild-hall

all causes are tried; and here the quarter sessions are held. The mayor is admiral of the liberties, from South-sea Castle near Portsmouth to Hurst Castle, which is seated on a neck of land that runs so far into the sea, as to form the shortest passage to the Isle of Wight.

It is generally agreed, that this town was an ancient colony of the Romans, called Clausentum, or rather the old town which stood more eastward, upon the banks of the river Itching. This town was greatly harrassed by the Danes, who took it in the year 980, and in the reign of king Edward the First it was plundered and burnt to the ground by the French, but was soon rebuilt in a more convenient situation, fortified with battlements and watch towers; and in a little time becoming populous, king Richard the Second built a strong castle on a high mount for the defence of the harbour. It is said, that by the privileges anciently granted to this place, all the Canary wine brought to England was obliged to be first landed here, which greatly enriched the inhabitants; but the London merchants suffering great inconvenience from the delay this occasioned, purchased this privilege of the corporation, and had their wines brought directly to London.

This town is at present encompassed by a strong wall built with very large stones, full of those little white shells, like honeycombs, that grow on the back of oysters. These stones are extremely hard, and seem to have been gathered near the beach of the sea, which encompasses near one half of the town, and is so deep, that ships of 500 tons burthen have been frequently built there. These walls have many lunettes and towers; and in some places is a double ditch. To defend that part of the town encompassed by the sea from the force of the waves, a strong bank is built of what
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is called sea-ore, a weed composed of long, slender, and strong filaments, somewhat resembling undressed hemp: it is very tough and durable, on which account it is thought to be a better defence than a wall of stone, or even a natural cliff; but this last must appear highly improbable. At the south-east corner near the quay is a fort mounted with guns, called the tower, erected by Henry the Eighth in 1542.

The principal street is one of the broadest in England, and near three quarters of a mile long, well paved on both sides, and ending in a very fine quay. The chief ornaments of the town are its churches, of which there are six, besides a French church, and several meeting-houses. Here is an hospital, called God's house. St. John's hospital, which has a master and six boys, who are instructed in the woollen manufacture; a free-school, founded by king Edward the Sixth; and in 1760, a school was opened for educating twenty boys for the sea, in pursuance of the will of Richard Taunton, Esq; late alderman of Southampton. The inhabitants trade to Portugal, Newfoundland, Jersey, and Guernsey. About the year 1754, the trade of this place was so much decayed, that the magistrates, for its encouragement and revival, gave up for the space of twenty-one years all their petty customs on goods imported and exported to or from Africa and America. The resort of the nobility and gentry here, during the summer months, for the advantage of sea-bathing, has been the occasion of much improvement in the town. The inhabitants vie with each other in fitting up their houses in the neatest and genteelest manner to accommodate the company. The citizens have been no less attentive to supply the company with fashionable amusements

amusements during the season. In 1766, a play-house was built on the following terms : a number of gentlemen subscribed ten guineas each, for which they were entitled to thirty nights, for three seasons, to a seat in either of the boxes ; or by the addition of a shilling to the subscription ticket, to two places in the pit. The theatre is neat and compact, and formed on the plan of that at Covent-garden. The old assembly-room in High-street being found to be small and inconvenient, the long-room was built in 1761, and proposed as a place to walk in, while others were bathing. But the company continuing to encrease during the following seasons, a very elegant room was added, which extends along the shore, and commands delightful views of the water, and the opposite shore, as well as of the vessels, both coming up and going down. The pier-glasses are very valuable the music disposed in the center of the room, and the whole elegantly finished.

In a word, Southampton is beautifully situated, so as to command a variety of the most agreeable entertainments both by land and water. The neighbouring country is well improved, and adorned with many seats and pleasant towns. The weekly markets are on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Besides which it has four fairs, which are but small ; the principal of these are on the 25th of April, and on Trinity-Monday. This last is held near the chapel mill, about half a mile from the town, and was probably much more considerable, than it is at present, as a pie-powder-court is constantly held in it, to determine disputes, and punish offenders.

It was here that king Canute ridiculed his flattering courtiers, by sitting crowned and in his royal robes, on the bank of the river, and commanding the tide not to approach his footstool ;
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but the sea, deaf to his commands, and regardless of his threats, continued its wonted course, and wetting his majesty's feet and robes, he started up, and upbraided those sycophants with the grossness of their flattery, in pretending that all nature obeyed him, adding, let this convince you, and all the world, that the power of the greatest monarch is poor and weak, and that none is truly worthy of the title of King, but he whose Will being an Eternal Law, the Heavens, the Earth and Sea obey.

It will be proper to observe, with respect to the ecclesiastical antiquities of this town, that there was an hospital here for lepers before the year 1179, which was valued at the dissolution at 16 l. 16 s. 2d. a year. In the reign of Henry the Third, two brothers, who were merchants, one named Gervasius, and the other Protasius, who lived in the south-east corner of the town, converted their dwelling-house into an hospital for poor people, and endowed it with some lands, to which several benefactions were afterwards added. Its chapel is dedicated to St. Julian, on which account it is often called the hospital of St. Julian, but is generally termed God's house. The patronage and masterhip was given by king Edward the Third, by the persuasions of Philippa his queen, to the provost and fellows of Queen's college in Oxford, which she had founded, and in their possession it continues to this day. In the south-east part of the town, near the walls, was a house or college of grey friars, who settled here in the year 1240.

On a promontory on the west side of the mouth of that arm of the sea called Southampton-water is COLSHOT Castle, which was built by Henry the Eighth, to defend that town. This, though built chiefly for defence, is a handsome fortress,

with a moat on the side next the land, over which is a draw-bridge. A garrison is constantly kept here, commanded by the governor of the castle.

At HAMBLE, a village near Southampton, was a priory of Cistercian monks, dedicated to St. Andrew, which became a cell to the abbey of Tironne in France, and was at length given to New college in Oxford.

At the hamlet of St. MARY's, which is at a small distance to the north-east of Southampton, stood the old Roman town, called Clausentum, which in the ancient British tongue signifies the port of Entum. The ruins of this town may be traced on one side as far as the haven, and on the other beyond the river Itching; and the trenches of a castle, half a mile in compass, are still visible in St. Mary's field. This is supposed to have been one of those forts, which the Romans frequently erected in Britain to keep out the Saxons.

Three miles to the east of Southampton is NETLEY, where are the ruins of an abbey of the order of the Cistercians, founded by Henry the Third, in the year 1239, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edward: other endowments were bestowed on it by John de Warennæ, earl of Surry, in the year 1242. At the dissolution it had an abbot and twelve monks, whose revenues were valued at 100l. 12 s. 8 d. a year. The rooms and walls now standing shew that it was once a handsome edifice. Very large ivy grows out of this abbey and church. This last seems to have been built on the same model with Rumsey church.

Six miles north-west of Southampton is RUMSEY, which is situated on the road from Southampton to Salisbury, 17 miles south-east of the last mentioned city, and 78 west by south of London. Dr. Stukeley maintains, that it was a Roman town, and that its name is a corruption of Armi-

nis. Its situation is extremely pleasant, it being encompassed by an agreeable mixture of woods, corn-fields, meadows and pastures. The town is pretty large, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, six aldermen and twelve burgessees. The church is a noble pile, arched with stone, and in the form of a cross, with semicircular chapels in the upper angles. This town is chiefly inhabited by clothiers, and has a considerable manufacture of shalloons, called ratinets, in which above six hundred hands are employed. It has a good market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on Easter-monday, August 26, and November 8, for horses, cattle, cheese and hogs.

King Edgar the Elder built here a monastery, which was changed by king Edgar his grandson into a nunnery, under the government of the abbess Merwenna. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Elfleda, who was some time a nun and abbess here. The last mentioned prince confirmed and enlarged the endowments of his grandfather, which were farther encreased and confirmed by Henry the Third, and Edward the First. It was valued at the dissolution by Dugdale at 393 l. a year; but by Speed at 528 l.

Sir William Petty, a man of great capacity and uncommon ingenuity in the seventeenth century, was the son of Anthony Petty, a clothier, and was born at this town on the 16th of May, 1623. While he was a boy, he took great delight in conversing with artificers, as smiths, carpenters, joiners, &c. and imitating their several trades, which he performed very dexterously at twelve years of age. He then went to school; and, according to his own account, at the age of fifteen, was master of the Latin, Greek, and French tongues, together with arithmetic, and those parts of the mathematics which relate to navigation.

Soon after he repaired to the university of Caen in Normandy; and thence to Paris, where he studied anatomy, and read Vesalius under Mr. Hobbes, who then resided in that city. Upon his return to England, he obtained a commission in the royal navy. In 1643, when the war between the king and the parliament grew hot, he retired into France and the Netherlands; and having, for the space of three years prosecuted his studies, especially that of physic, at Utrecht, Leyden, Amsterdam, and Paris, he returned to his native country. In 1647, a patent was granted him for teaching the art of double writing for 17 years. Being naturally a man of a peaceable temper, and bent, at the same time, upon pushing his fortune, he quietly submitted to the ruling powers; and going to Oxford in 1648, he there taught anatomy and chemistry, and was created doctor of physic. In 1650 he was made professor of anatomy in that university, and member of the college of physicians in London. The same year he was appointed physician to the army in Ireland; and going over to that kingdom, he resided there till 1659, and acquired an immense fortune. After the restoration of king Charles the Second, he was introduced to that prince, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood. About the year 1663, he constructed a double-bottomed ship for sailing against wind and tide; which, tho' it did not fully answer the purpose, was yet allowed to be a most ingenious invention. A model of this ship is still preserved in the repository of the royal society. He died at London of a gangrene in his foot, December the 16th, 1687, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. His fortune is said, at the time of his death, to have amounted to 15,000 l. per annum. Of all his works, his *Political Arithmetic* is the best known.

Three miles south-west of Rumsey, and eight to the westward of Southampton is **POULTON's**, the seat of Hans Stanley, Esq; which is well worth visiting. The lawns, which are beautiful and extensive, are bounded on all sides by forest trees and exotics. Through the midst of the lawn winds a serpentine river, well stocked with the scarcest and most curious fish.

We shall now return to Southampton, where quitting the town, and proceeding in the way to Winchester, you come to **BELLEVUE**, the fine seat of Nathaniel André, Esq; which stands in a most happy situation: from the terrace, and especially from the windows, the eye takes in a very grand prospect: the view of the river being obstructed by its winding course, Southampton water appears like a spacious basin: the motion of the vessels on the water, the contrast formed by the parts improved, and those uncultivated, with the intervening shades, and the distant hills, exhibit a landscape truly picturesque.

About half a mile farther up the same road you come to **PADWELL**, more generally known by the name of **BEVIS' MOUNT**, the seat of Sir John Mordaunt, to which you proceed through a regular row of elms on each side. It lies on the bank of the Itching, where was originally a vast pile of earth, of a conical form, supposed to have been an ancient fortification, thrown up by the Saxons, under the command of Bevis, to oppose the passage of the Danes over the river, who lay encamped on the other side. The river is not very large, but the tide forms a bay just under the mount, and this last being contiguous to an estate belonging to the late earl of Peterborough, his lordship purchased it, and converted it into a kind of wilderness, thro' which are various winding gravel-walks, which are extremely romantic and

agreeable. On the top of a little mount is an elegant summer-house, under which is an ice-house. The whole is converted into gardens, which are kept in excellent order, and adorned throughout with statues.

At a small distance was the ancient priory of St. Dennis, formerly belonging to the canons of St. Austin. It was founded and endowed by Henry the First, and afterwards Henry the Second, king Stephen, Richard the First, and many private persons, bestowed lands, tenements, and the advowson of churches on it. At the suppression it was valued at 80 l. 11 s. 6 d. a year. Where this priory formerly stood is now a farm-house, at which may be seen many stone coffins entire, which are used for troughs and other uses.

The city of WINCHESTER is seated twenty-nine miles north-west of Chichester, twelve north of Southampton, twenty east of Salisbury, and sixty-seven west by south of London. It is said to have been the metropolis of the British Belgæ, and is generally allowed to be the *Vente Belgarum* of the Romans. It was called by the Saxons *Wintonceaster*, from the British name *Gwent-Caer*, compounded of *Gwen* or *Gwin*, white, and *Caer* a city; a name it probably acquired from its situation among hills of chalk or whitish clay. It is seated on the western declivity and bottom of a hill, the river *Itching* running below on the east, and many branches of it passing thro' the middle of the city. It is about a mile and a half in compass, and almost surrounded with a wall built with flint, having six gates, with suburbs to each. In the higher part of the city are the remains of a castle, which overlooks the whole; in a part of this structure is the town-hall, where the assizes are kept, and which is supported upon marble pillars.

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The buildings of this city are in general but mean; the streets are, however, broad and clean, and there is a great deal of void ground within the walls, some part of which is laid into gardens, that are supplied with water from little canals on each side of the high street. In this street is a Guild-hall, which not many years ago was rebuilt, and the front adorned with a statue of queen Anne. In this hall is held a court of record every Friday and Saturday. At the east gate of the city is an hospital dedicated to St. John, which is still standing; and in the hall of this hospital, the mayor and bailiffs have their public entertainments. At one end of the room is the picture of king Charles the Second, by Sir Peter Lely, and at the other, a large table of all the mayors and bailiffs of Winchester from the year 1184; and also tables of benefactions to this city, during the reigns of the Saxon kings, and from Henry the Second to Charles the Second. The city is at present governed, according to a charter of queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, a high-steward, a recorder, an unlimited number of aldermen, out of whom six justices are chosen, two coroners, two bailiffs, twenty-four common-councilmen, a town-clerk, four constables, and four serjeants at mace.

The episcopal palace was built in this city by bishop Blois in the time of king Stephen. It was almost encompassed by the river Itching, and was fortified with turrets. This structure was demolished by the parliament army in the reign of king Charles the First, but was rebuilt by bishop Morley in the reign of Charles the Second, and was fitted up by Dr. Trelawney, the succeeding bishop. The see of Winchester, which is one of the richest in the kingdom, was originally founded by Kinegulle, one of the kings of the Mercians,
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whose son in the year 663 translated the see of Dorchester hither; and tho' the diocese of Sherborn was afterwards taken out of it by king Ina, yet it became so rich, that when Edward the Third offered to prefer his favourite Edendon, who was then bishop, to the see of Canterbury, he refused it, saying, that "tho' Canterbury was the highest rack, Winchester was the better manger." William of Wickham obtained some privileges and immunities for this see, while he was bishop of it in the reign of Edward the Third; such as that the bishops of Winchester should be chancellors to the archbishops of Canterbury, and prelates of the most noble order of the garter.

This city had formerly thirty-two parish churches, of which only six are now remaining. The cathedral, which is a large and venerable structure, was begun by bishop Walkelin, about the year 1070, and finished by William of Wickham, whose statue is placed in a niche over the great window opposite the choir. Instead of a steeple, this church has only a short tower, with a flat covering, as if the top had fallen down, and it had been covered in haste, to keep out the rain. This cathedral is 545 feet in length from east to west, including our lady's chapel, at the east end, which is fifty-four feet long, and the breadth of the body and cross isles eighty-seven feet. The choir is 136 feet long, and forty broad: the great cross isle is about 186 feet in length, and the tower in the middle is 150 feet high: the nave or western body of the church is above 300 feet in length, and is reckoned the most spacious in England. The roof of the choir is adorned with the arms of the Saxon and Norman kings. The font, which was erected in the time of the Saxons, is of black marble, and of a square figure, supported

ported by a plain stone pedestal, but the sides are adorned with sculptures in basso relievo, representing the miracles of some saint belonging to this church. The ascent to the choir is by a noble flight of eight steps, the whole breadth of the middle isle, and on the top of them are two fine statues of copper of James the Firſt, and Charles the Firſt. The ſcreen, which was deſigned by Inigo Jones, is a fine piece of architecture of the Composite order; but his thus joining the Roman to the Gothic ſtyle, is juſtly conſidered as a ſolyciſm in architecture; but this is not the only impropriety of that kind, for the biſhop's throne, which was the gift of biſhop Trelawney, is adorned with a pediment, on which is a mitre, and the arms of the ſee, ſupported by fluted columns of the Corinthian order. The ſtalls of the dean and prebendaries are ornamented with gilt ſpire-work, before which an eagle ſtands on a braſs pedestal with its wings expanded. The ascent to the altar is of ſteps of marble, and the pavement is curiouſly inlaid with marble of different colours, forming a variety of figures. The altar-piece, which is the nobleſt in England, was ſet up by biſhop Morley, and conſiſts of a lofty canopy projecting over the communion table, like a curtain, with gilt feſtoons hanging down from it, and other ornaments. The rails of the altar are neat, and on each ſide are ſtone vases, with flames of gold riſing to the roof of the church. The great eaſt window is remarkable for its fine painted glaſs, representing the ſaints and biſhops of this church; it is ſtill entire, as is alſo the weſt window, which is of painted glaſs, tho' inferior to the other. In this ſtructure, ſeveral of our Saxon kings were interred, whoſe bones were collected by biſhop Fox, and depoſited in fix gilded coffins, which he cauſed to be placed on a wall on the
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south side of the choir. Here is also the marble coffin of William Rufus, which being opened by the soldiers, in the civil wars under king Charles the First, they found a gold ring, set with a ruby, on his thumb : a neat chapel was built by bishop Langton, on the south side of our lady's chapel, in the middle of which he lies interred, under a stately marble tomb. Bishop Fox, who was interred on the south side of the high altar, has also a fine monument erected over him. Here are likewise several other magnificent tombs, among which is that of William of Wickham, which is of white marble richly gilt, and here he himself is represented adorned with the ensigns of the order of the garter, of which he was the first prelate, joined with his episcopal robes painted in their proper colours ; this was erected by himself in the body of the church, about thirteen years before his death. Here is also a monument of the earl of Portland, lord high treasurer of England, in the reign of king Charles the First, upon which is placed a copper statue of the earl in armour, with his head raised on three cushions of the same metal ; and on the south side of the nave is a marble statue of Sir John Cloberry.

The clergy of this city have pleasant and elegant lodgings in the close belonging to the cathedral ; particularly the deanery is a very handsome structure, with large and pleasant gardens, but they are subject to be overflowed by the river, which runs through the middle of them.

At a small distance from the bishop's palace is the college of St. Mary, usually called Winchester College, the foundation of which was laid in 1387, by William of Wickham, and it was finished in the year 1393. By his charter he appointed a custos or warden, seventy scholars students in grammar, ten perpetual chaplains, now called fellows,

fellows, three other chaplains, three clerks, a school master, an usher, an organist, and sixteen choristers, who with their tenants were for ever freed from all taxes. The warden, masters and fellows, have a considerable allowance, and handsome apartments joining to the college, which consists of two large courts, in which are the schools, a chapel, and lodgings for the scholars. The windows of the chapel are adorned with excellent paintings, and in the middle of the cloysters is a library. Over the door of the school is a fine statue of the founder, made by Mr. Cibber. In short, the building is of stone, and well contrived to prevent any accident by fire. Many learned and great men have been educated in this school, where, after a certain time, the scholars have exhibitions to study in the New college at Oxford, founded by the same benefactor.

On the west side of the city, on an eminence commanding the town, king Charles the Second employed Sir Christopher Wren in building a royal palace; but when the design was nearly completed, the king dying, it was suffered to lie neglected. The south side extends 216 feet, and the west 326; and this structure was carried up to the roof, and covered. The principal floor of this edifice is a noble range of apartments twenty feet high, and the whole building contains 160 rooms. It fills up three sides of a large square, in such a manner, that the opening of the wings commands a view of the city. There are three rows of windows that fill up every side of the outer part of the building, besides the fronton in the middle of each side, which is composed of four Corinthian pilasters. A handsome ballustrade runs quite round the top; but the inside of the open court is most elegant, it being adorned with porticos. A great bridge was to have been built
across

across the Foss in the principal front ; and a garden, park, &c. were to have extended behind the back front. His majesty king George the First made a present to the duke of Bolton of the fine columns of Italian marble, that were to have supported the roof of the grand stair-case, and were said to be a present from the great duke of Tuscany. In the late reign the inhabitants were in hopes that this palace would have been finished, and made the residence of some of the royal family, but these hopes were frustrated by its being fitted up for the French prisoners taken during the late war.

In this city is a magnificent building, called the Hospital of the Holy Cross, the church of which is in the form of a cross, and has a large square tower. By the institution of the founder, every traveller who knocks at the door of this house in his way, may claim the relief of a manchet of white bread, and a cup of beer, a good quantity of which is daily set apart to be given away ; and what is left, is distributed to other poor, but none of it is kept till the next day. The revenues of this hospital were appropriated to the maintenance of a master and thirty pensioners, called Fellows or Brothers, for whom were allotted handsome apartments ; but the number is now reduced to fourteen, tho' the master has an appointment of 800 l. a year. The pensioners wear black gowns, go twice a day to prayers, and have two hot meals a day, except in Lent, when they have bread, butter, cheese and beer, and twelve shillings in money to buy what other provisions they choose. These pensioners used formerly to consist of decayed gentlemen ; but of late, they are reduced tradesmen put in at the master's pleasure. This hospital was originally founded by bishop Henry de Blois, brother to king Stephen, in the year 1132. In

In the north quarter of the city is part of an old monastery still standing, now called Hyde-House, where some Roman Catholicks reside, have a chapel, and behave in so unexceptionable a manner, that they are not molested.

In this city was lately established an infirmary by a voluntary subscription, chiefly procured by the reverend doctor Alured Clarke. Here are also three charity-schools, two of them supported by a subscription of 220 l. a year, one of them for fifty boys, and the other for thirty girls, who are all cloathed, and put out apprentices; the third, which is supported by the bounty of a single person, is for teaching 250 boys, who are neither cloathed nor put out apprentice. Besides these, there is in the cathedral church-yard a college, erected and endowed by bishop Morley in 1672, for ten widows of clergymen. Here are two markets, which are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on the first Monday in Lent, for bacon, cheese, leather and horses; and the other on the 24th of October, for bullocks, sheep, horses and leather.

The plains and downs about this city, which continues with few interfections of rivers or valleys for above fifty miles, renders this country very pleasant to those who are fond of an open situation and extensive prospect. Hence, though there is here neither much trade, nor any manufacture worthy of notice, the city and neighbourhood abound with persons of fortune.

Before we leave this city, it is proper to take notice of its civil and religious antiquities. This city is supposed by some to have been built 900 years before the Christian æra, and to have been the metropolis of the Belgæ, whence it is called Vente Belgarum, both by Ptolemy and Antoninus. In this city, the Romans had afterwards looms to
weave

weave cloth for the emperors and their army ; and king Athelstone granted it the privileges of six mints for the coinage of money. At a small distance from the west gate of the cathedral are still the remains of a very thick old wall, in which are several windows ; it is built of small flints, cemented by mortar as hard as stone, and is supposed to have been part of a Roman building.

On St. Catharine's hill near the city are the traces of a camp ; on the side of the west gate was a castle, where the West Saxon kings are supposed to have kept their court ; and in the castle-hall is still preserved what is called king Arthur's Round Table, which consists of one piece of wood, and is pretended to be above 1200 years old. Upon it are some illegible characters, said to be the names of twenty-four knights, with whom king Arthur used to carouse, and who are called knights of the Round Table. It is, however, most probable, that all the exploits of king Arthur in these parts are fabulous, and that this table is of a much later date.

A monastery is said to have been early founded here by Lucius, a British king, for monks of the order of St. Mark, which, after several changes, was entirely destroyed by one of the West Saxon kings.

About the end of the ninth century, a nunnery was begun in the east part of this city by king Alfred, or Alswitha, and finished by their son king Edward the Elder. This house was new modelled and enlarged by bishop Ethelwold. The nuns were of the Benedictine order, and the house dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Edburg, daughter of king Edward, who is said to have been an abbess here. The annual revenue of this abbey in the twenty-sixth year of Henry the Eighth was 179 l. 7 s. and three years after, when

when it was dissolved, the king granted pensions to the abbess and twenty-one nuns.

A house and chapel was also founded here by king Alfred, for Grimbald, a learned monk, whom that prince brought out of Flanders, and by his will ordered a religious house to be built in the cemetery, on the north side of the old minster or cathedral, over which he intended Grimbald should preside. This building was erected by king Edward his son, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Peter; but the religious of this house being afterwards disturbed by the singing and bells of the minster, thought fit, in the year 1110, to remove to a place called Hyde without the walls, on the north part of the city, where king Henry the First founded a stately abbey for them, which was sometimes called the monastery of St. Grimbald, and sometimes of St. Barnabas, though it is said to have been dedicated to St. Peter. Its revenues, at the dissolution, amounted to 865 l. 18 s. a year.

A house or college of Dominicans, or preaching friars, stood in the north part of the town, and was first placed here by Peter de Rupibus, bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king John, which was granted by king Henry the Eighth, to the warden and fellows of Wickham college. He also granted to the same college, a house of grey friars, on the north side of the street just within the east gate.

An hospital was founded near one of the gates of the city by bishop Brinstan, who died in 935. At a little distance, without the king's gate, was an hospital for poor people, maintained by the monks of St. Swithin's; and in this city was an hospital for nine brethren and sisters, before the time of king Edward the First, when it was reckoned to be in the patronage of the bishop of
Win-

Winchester. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and valued, at the dissolution, at 42 l. 16 s. a year.

There were also, in this city, a house of Carmelite or white friars, said to have been founded in the year 1278 by Peter, rector of St. Helen's, Winchester. Without the south gate was a house of Augustine friars, built in the reign of Edward the First, and rebuilt after the fifteenth year of Edward the Third. Here was likewise a monastery, said to have been built by one Adam Martin, dedicated to St. James. The prior and brethren of the fraternity of St. Peter, in the church of St. Maurice, and the college of St. Mary Kalendar, are mentioned in the twenty-fifth year of king Edward the Third. A warden, and several priests, were settled in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, on the north side of the church-yard of St. Mary's abbey, about the year 1318, by Roger, or John Inkpenne, a citizen of Winchester; and in the meadow of St. Stephen, opposite the gate of the bishop's palace, called Wolvesey, John de Pontoys, bishop of Winchester, built a college, about the year 1300, for a provost, six chaplains, priests, six clerks, and six choristers, to the honour of St. Elizabeth, daughter to the king of Hungary, which, at the dissolution, had an annual revenue of 112 l. 17 s.

At the distance of seven miles west north-west of Winchester is STOCKBRIDGE, which is situated in the road to Weymouth, sixty-nine miles west-north-west of London. This is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff, constable, and serjeant at mace; and sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by all the inhabitants that pay to the church and poor. It is a mean place; but has several good inns for the accommodation of travellers. The bailiff, who is
generally

generally an innkeeper, or one dependant upon an innkeeper, is the returning officer at elections ; for it is said that the innkeeper, in order to have an opportunity of receiving bribes upon these occasions, without being liable to the penalty, has frequently procured one of his own hostlers to be elected bailiff, and has himself carried the mace before him. The ingenious Sir Richard Steel, who represented this borough in the reign of queen Anne, carried his election against a powerful opposition, by the merry expedient of sticking a large apple full of guineas, and declaring it should be the prize of that man whose wife should first be brought to bed after that day nine months : this, we are told, procured him the interest of the women, who are said to commemorate Sir Richard's bounty to this day, and once made a strenuous effort to procure a standing order of the corporation, that no man should ever be received as a candidate, who did not offer himself upon the same terms. This town is said to have the best wheel-wrights and carpenters in the county. It has three fairs, held on Holy-Thursday for sheep ; on the 10th of July, for sheep and horses ; and on the 7th of October for sheep.

About thirteen miles to the north-west of Winchester is ANDOVER, which is situated on the London road to Salisbury, from which it is seventeen miles distant, and sixty-six from London. It derives its name from its being seated on a small river called the Ande, and is pleasantly situated on the side of the Downs, which makes it both healthful and agreeable. It is now a large, handsome, populous, and thriving place. Great quantities of malt are made here, but its chief manufacture is shalloons. This town is said to have had its first charter from king John, but was last incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed
by

by a bailiff, a steward, a recorder, two justices, and twenty-two capital burgesſes, who annually chooſe the bailiff, and the bailiff appoints two ſerjeants at mace to attend him. It ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by the majority of the corporation. Here is an alms-houſe for the maintenance of fix poor men; a free-school founded in 1569, and a charity-school for thirty boys. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, which are held on Mid-Lent Saturday, for cheeſe, horſes and leather; on May 12, for leather and millinary goods; and on the 16th of November, for ſheep, horſes, leather, and cheeſe.

With reſpect to the antiquities of this place, it may be proper juſt to obſerve, that the church of St. Mary, being given by William the Conqueror to the French abbey of St. Florence, at Salmur in Anjou, it became a cell to that monaſtery. It was finally diſſolved by ſtatute in the ſecond year of Henry the Fifth, and granted to Wincheſter college.

At WHERWELL, a village ſeated on the river Teſte near Andover, the widow of king Edgar founded a Benedictine nunnery about the year 986, to atone for having murdered Ethelwold her firſt huſband, in order that ſhe might be queen, and afterwards king Edward her ſon-in-law, that her own ſon Ethelred might aſcend the throne; and in this abbey ſhe is ſaid to have ſpent the latter part of her life in a very penitent manner. It was dedicated to the Holy-Croſs and St. Peter; and at the ſuppreſſion its revenues amounted to 339l. 8 s. 7 d. a year.

Three miles weſt of Andover is held a remarkable fair, at a little village named WEYHILL, held on the 10th of October. This is thought to be the greateſt fair in England for ſheep, and the farmers

farmers flock to it from all parts to buy Dorsetshire ewes. It is remarkable, that at this fair, in the year 1753, above 200,000 sheep were brought up to be sold. It is also very considerable for leather, hops, and cheese; hops being brought thither from Kent and Sussex; and cheese from Gloucestershire and Somersetshire in great abundance.

About a mile from Andover is a Roman camp, called BEREHILL, and at the distance of half a mile is another of greater extent, with double works; and some miles to the north is a third, near a village called Egbury. On Quarley-hills, a few miles to the south-west of Andover, are the remains of a fort, still larger than any of the others. The works on the side are quadruple, and the two outward trenches are farther distant from each other than usual. This is answered by another great camp to the east of Quarley-hills, at a place called Dunbury-hill; and at Okebury, about six miles from Andover, is a large Roman camp, which appears to be answered by another at Frippsbury, at about five miles distance.

We shall now take the road, which extends eastward from Andover to Stains, and shall proceed to HITCHURCH, which lies about seven miles north-east of Andover, twenty-three east by north of Salisbury, and sixty west by south of London; it being seated on the western road from the last-mentioned city to the Land's end, on the skirts of the forest of Chute. This is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by a mayor, annually chosen at a court-leet of the dean and chapter of Winchester, who are lords of the manor, and it sends two members to parliament, who are elected by such of the freeholders as are inhabitants. The chief trade of this town consists in shalloons, serges, and other articles of the woollen manufacture. It has a market on Fri-
days,

days, and four fairs, which are held on the 23^d of April, the 20th of June, and the 7th of July, for toys, and on the 19th of October, for sheep.

BASINGSTOKE, the next town on the same road, is about eleven miles to the east of Whitchurch, thirty-five miles east by north of Salisbury, and forty-eight west by south of London. This is a large, populous town, governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, and seven capital burgessees, with other officers. Besides the parish church, are the ruins of a chapel built by William the first lord Sandys, in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, a free-school, and three charity-schools, in one of which twelve boys are taught, cloathed and maintained by the skinners company in London. The inhabitants drive a great trade in malt, and have a large market on Wednesdays, for all sorts of corn, especially barley. The chief manufacture of the town is druggets and shalloons. Two fairs are kept on the neighbouring Downs on Easter-Tuesday, and September 16, for cattle and toys, and two in the town on Wednesday in Whitsun-Week, for pedlary, and on October 10, for cattle and for hiring servants. In this town king Henry the Third founded an hospital in the year 1261, for the maintenance of aged and helpless priests, in pursuance of the will of Walter de Merton; and after the foundation of Merton college in Oxford, such of the fellows and scholars of that college as should become fit objects of this charity, were to be preferred. It was dedicated to St Mary, and St. John Baptist; and the mastership of it was very early annexed to the wardenhip of Merton-college.

Not far from hence is BASINGHOUSE, which was formerly the seat of John marquis of Winchester, who, in the great civil war, turned it
into

into a fortress for king Charles, and having under him a resolute band of soldiers, held it a long time; but after having resisted many attacks, Cromwell at last took it by storm, and being exasperated at the marquis's zeal and resolution burnt the house to the ground. Both this structure and its furniture were extremely magnificent, among that which was consumed was a bed worth 1400 l. and the plunder was so considerable, that a private soldier got 300 l. to his own share.

John Basinge, more commonly known by the name of John de Basingstoke, was born at Basingstoke, and from thence took his surname. He laid the foundation of his great learning in the university of Oxford, and, for his farther improvement, went over to Paris, where he resided some years. Not satisfied with that, he travelled to Athens, that ancient seat of the Muses, and mother of all polite literature, where he perfected himself in the knowledge of the Greek language. At his return to England, he brought over with him several curious Greek manuscripts, and introduced the use of the Greek numeral figures into this kingdom. As a reward of his merit he was promoted to the archdeaconry of Leicester, as also to that of London. He died in the year 1252.

Henry Bentinck, second son of William, earl of Portland, succeeded his father in his title and estate, upon the decease of his eldest brother, who died in his infancy. In 1710, he was made captain of the first troop of horse guards, in the room of the earl of Albemarle. In 1716, he was created by king George the First marquis of Titchfield, and duke of Portland; and when his majesty the year following visited Cambridge, his grace, who attended him, was admitted to the degree of doctor of laws. In 1721, he was ap-

pointed captain general, and governor of the island of Jamaica, where he died of a fever, universally lamented, on the 4th day of July, 1726, in the forty-fifth year of his age.

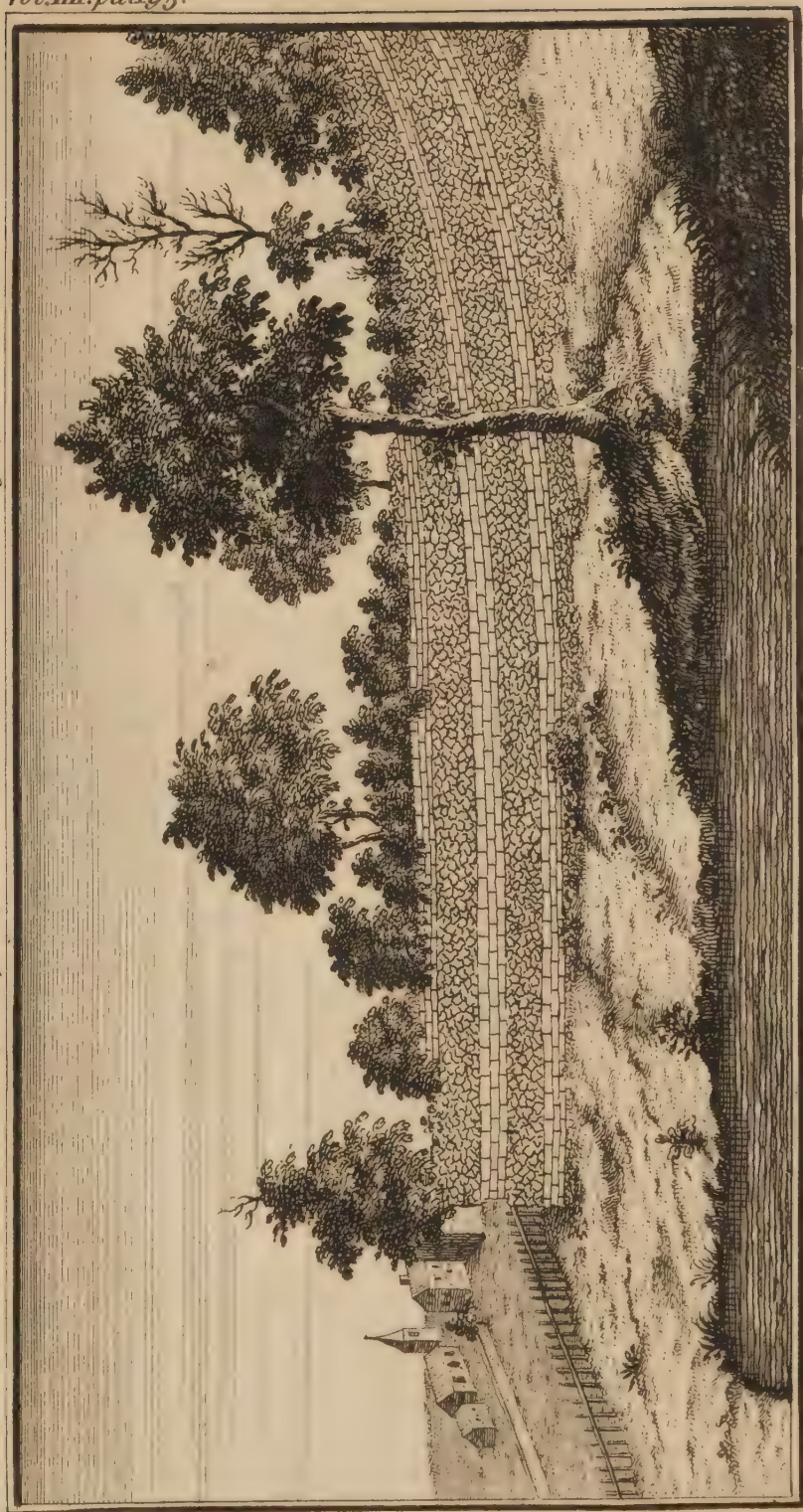
About eight or nine miles north-east of Basingstoke is **KINGSCLEAR**, which is pleasantly situated on the downs, seven miles south-east of Newbury, thirty-three on the same point from Oxford, forty-seven north by west of Chichester, and fifty-two west of London. It was anciently the seat of the West-Saxon kings, and is now a well frequented town, half a mile in length, and as much the other way. It has a small market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, which are held on the first Tuesday in April, and on the first Tuesday after the 10th of October, for sheep.

BURGHCLEAR is a village, four miles west of Kingsclear, and is seated under a high hill, on the top of which is a military camp, surrounded with a large trench. Here is an extensive prospect all round the country; and here was a beacon, which when set on fire, gave notice to all the neighbouring parts of the approach of an enemy.

Seven miles to the north of Basingstoke is **SYLCHESTER**, which is situated in a fine open country, about ten miles from Reading, and twelve from Newbury. This is only a hamlet, consisting of one farm-house and a church; but was formerly a large and populous city, as appears from the vestiges of its ancient grandeur, the remains of the celebrated Vindoma, or Vindonum of the Romans, and the *Caer Segont* of the Britons. The walls are still, in many places, almost entire, and in some parts near twenty feet high, having various kinds of trees of such considerable bulk, growing out of them, that within twenty years it is said there have been cut from them near a thousand pounds worth of timber. These walls

The North East View of Sylchester Walls, in the County of Hampshire.

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walls are chiefly built with flints, tho' iron-stone, and others, are frequently intermixed with them; and at the distance of about every two feet is a stratum or layer of broad flag-stones, which were probably intended to prevent the flint and other small stones from falling, when assailed by battering-rams. Of this manner of building the reader will form a more perfect idea from the annexed plate. On the south-south-east and south-west sides, the walls are at least fourteen feet thick, the north side is indeed less substantial, probably, on account of its being secured by a moat, which the springs always kept full of water, for on that side the ditch still remains, and is, in many places, full. The city was of an irregular form, but seems to have been intended as an octagon, tho' in some places the foundation will not admit of that form. There were four gates which opened to the four cardinal points; and without the east gate, at about the distance of a hundred yards from the walls, are the remains of a Roman amphitheatre, which appears to have been six seats deep; the area is now converted into an horse-pond, but the water might be easily let out, for the vestiges of the old drains are still to be seen, and might be opened with little difficulty. On the south side of the wall is still a sally-port, and part of a subterraneous passage.

The contents of the land within the walls is about a hundred acres, which is nearly as much as was included within the walls of London; and there were, doubtless, very considerable buildings without the walls; for at about 300 yards distance is a bank, and a ditch that cover near two-thirds of the city, where the ground is firm, and the city was most likely to be attacked; and at about the distance of a mile and a half to the north-westward is still a small village, called the

Soak ; near which are the remains of a camp, but from its form, it does not appear to be Roman ; and at about half a mile from that village is a bank and ditch of several miles extent ; but as it does not environ the city, it is probably of a modern date, and no part of those works that were raised for its security.

The streets of this ancient city were regular, and intersected each other at equal distances ; the one point running from east to west, and the other extending from north to south, as evidently appears from examining the corn growing in the fields, especially before harvest, when you may trace, not only the streets, but even the foundations of many of the houses, some of which were so large, that many of the rooms were thirty-three feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth. The reason why the buildings are so easily distinguished from the streets, by the growing corn, is, doubtless, owing to the latter's being formed of a binding gravel, or clay and gravel mixed, which burns up the corn, while the land where the buildings stood is a fine black mould, intermixed with the burnt rubbish of those structures ; for that they were actually burnt, evidently appears from the great quantity of ashes, and even charcoal, still dug up, while no timber is to be found, nor any wood in a rotten state. Besides, many of the pieces of coin dug up here are so burnt, as to be deprived of the Phlogiston principle, and capable of being reduced to powder ; and others that are not so much burnt, are yet so affected by the fire, as to be deprived of the properties of taking that verditer colour, which the antiquarians call the Beautiful Rust, and appear as perfectly of a copper colour, as if they had been cleaned.

In or near the middle of the city are some remains of a temple, which was dedicated to Hercules,

cules, as appears by the following inscription on a piece of grey marble, dug out of the foundation by Mr. Stair of Aldermaston, in Bucks.

MEMORIAE
FL. VICTORI
NAE. T. TAM
VICTOR
CONIUNX
POSVIT

That is,

Memoriae Flaviae Victorinae Titus Tamphilus
Victor conjunx posuit.

This city was well situated for health, but not for the conveniences of life, there being no river within many miles, except a little rivulet, which has its source in Kingsclear hills, and running within a mile of the walls, discharges itself into the river Kennet at Reading; but as this rivulet is generally dry during the summer season, it could be of little service. There is indeed one spring within the walls near the east side, which, from the pieces of leaden pipes that have been dug up, seem to have supplied good part of the city with water; but it is now almost choaked up, and is very inconsiderable. There are indeed many springs without the walls, and perhaps there were wells enough within to afford them water sufficient to sustain a siege.

Camden informs us, that this city was rebuilt by Constantius, but was unable to let us know by whom it was first erected. We cannot therefore help observing, that it was probably first built by the ancient Britons themselves, who learned very early the method of building forts from the Phœnicians; for Mr. Stair, in digging under an old building, after taking up the Roman pavement, and the foundation, discovered another

foundation, of still more ancient date and different workmanship, composed of rough flint stones, and coarse gravelly mortar; and indeed the conjecture of its being originally built by the Britons, is rendered the more probable, from the British coins that have been found there, among which is one of gold, and another of silver, very perfect and extremely well preserved, in the possession of Mr. Stair.

The materials usually dug up from the ruins are Roman pavements, Roman tiles, pieces of coarse marble, pieces of round free-stone pillars, square free-stones, fluted at the edges, and some of them very large; pieces of statues but none entire, pieces of leaden pipes, keys, thimbles, swords, and daggers, stone masons tools, pieces of saws, small bells, necklaces of blue beads on links of brass wire, pieces of copper vessels ornamented, ivory and copper bodkins; pieces of the heads and bones of various animals, parts of the human skull, with the teeth large and almost entire; and which is very extraordinary, without the walls eastward a human skeleton was dug up that was full nine feet long. Roman coins are found here in abundance, of gold, silver, copper, and Corinthian brass; some cased with silver, and others only gilt. Among these coins, as I have already observed, are some that are ancient British; and the rest are Roman; some of them consular, and the rest are most of the emperors and empresses from Augustus down to Maximus, in or near whose reign it was probably destroyed, for tho' a great number of coins are found of almost all the emperors and empresses, (except Otho) yet not one has been found of any Roman monarch since Maximus, nor any Saxon or Danish coins at all, which there probably would have been, had the city subsisted after his
time.

time. We must observe, that Mr. Stair has now in his possession above two thousand coins in gold, silver, copper and brass, which have been dug up here, on most of which the inscriptions are entire, tho' the reverses are generally different; he has also two onyx stones, on one of which is represented a cock picking out of a cornucopia, and the other has these four letters ZACP. They are each of the size of common seals, and both of the form of an oval.

We shall now return from viewing these antiquities to Basingstoke, from whence we shall proceed eastward to ODIAM, a small market town eight miles east of Basingstoke, and forty-one from London. It is a corporation town, and was formerly a free borough of the bishop of Winchester. It has a charity-school for thirty boys, and had formerly a royal palace and a strong castle, which in the reign of king John was defended against Lewis dauphin of France, and the army of the barons, for fifteen days by only thirteen men. In this castle David king of Scotland was kept prisoner in the reign of Edward the Third. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, one held on Mid-Lent Saturday, and the other on the 31st of July, for cattle and toys.

Seven miles to the northward of Odiam is EVER-SLEY, a village, which has two fairs, held on the 16th of May, and the 18th of October, for cattle and toys.

We shall now proceed to the southward, and following the road from London to Southampton, shall begin with ALTON, which is about ten miles south-west of Odiam, and is half a mile in length. It has a charity-school for forty boys, and twenty girls, and has a very considerable market on Saturdays for provisions, with a fair on the 29th of September, for cattle and toys. The great Ro-

man highway leads from the city of Winchester to this town, and as is supposed from thence to London, tho' the remains of it are not visible beyond Alton. Here lord Hopton posted himself with a body of troops in the reign of king Charles the First, but Waller with a body of forces marched against him, and attacking the place, made prisoners of Colonel Bowles's regiment of foot; for that officer retiring with his men into the church, had not time to barricade the doors, and the enemy entering with him, his soldiers threw down their arms, and asked for quarter, which was granted, and also offered to the colonel; but he refusing to take it, was killed on the spot.

John Pits, a noted biographer, was born in 1560 at Alton, and educated at Wykeham's school near Winchester, and at New college in Oxford. In 1580, he left the kingdom as a voluntary Romish exile; and after studying at Doway, Rheims, and other foreign seminaries, he became confessor to the duchess of Cleves, and dean of Liverdun in the province of Lorraine. He died at that place on the 17th of October, 1616. He wrote a book, entitled, *De Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus*, and some other tracts.

Five miles north-east of Alton is BENTLEY-GREEN, a very pretty chearful well built village, the houses scattered, and all with neat well planted gardens before them. The fences on each side of the road for ten miles to and from this village are of white-thorn, of a vigorous growth, kept clean weeded, and a great number of them regularly clipped. The country is very pleasant, a due mean between hilly and flat, and open to agreeable landscapes, and the number of scattered houses and villages render it lively, especially as they are so neat.

At SELBORN near Alton was a priory of black canons, founded in 1233 by Peter de Rupibus, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but it was suppressed and granted to William Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, who made it a part of the endowment of St. Mary Magdalen's college in Oxford. It was valued at the dissolution at about 338 l. a year.

At WEST SHERBORN, which is likewise near Alton, was a priory of Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Mary and St. John, which became a cell to the abbey of St. Vigor at Ceraisy in Normandy, to which it was given by Henry de Port, one of the barons of the Exchequer, in the reign of king Henry the First ; but it was afterwards given by Edward the Fourth to the hospital of St. Julian in Southampton, and is now enjoyed by the provost and fellows of Queen's college in Oxford, as masters of that hospital.

Nine miles to the south-west of Alton is ALRESFORD, which probably received its name from its situation near the river Alre, now called the Itching, and is situated eighteen miles north by east of Southampton, seven north-east of Winchester, and sixty west by south of London. It is an ancient borough, somewhat more than three furlongs in length, governed by a bailiff and eight burgessees. On the first of May 1690, a dreadful fire broke out here, in several places at the same time, and consumed the whole town, sparing neither the church nor the market-house ; and since that time it has had the misfortune to be twice totally reduced to ashes ; but it has since recovered itself, and is at present a neat place, that has a considerable market on Thursdays, for sheep and all sorts of provisions, and likewise a fair on the 24th of June, for sheep, horses, and cows.

At **CHERITON DOWNS**, near **Alresford**, a battle was fought on the 29th of March 1644, between the lord **Hopton**, who commanded for king **Charles the First**, at the head of about 8000 men, and **Waller**, who had a body of the parliament forces, but lord **Hopton** was defeated, and there fell on the king's side, the lord **John Stewart**, brother to the duke of **Richmond**, and **Sir John Smith**, brother to lord **Carrington**.

We shall now return to **Winchester**, and proceeding from thence to **Rumsey**, which we have already described, shall cross the country to **CHARDFORD**, or **CARDICFORD**, a village seated on the river **Avon**, and so called from a Saxon named **Cerdic**, who was the founder of the kingdom of the **West-Saxons**. That prince, after many battles with the **Britons**, who had various commanders, at length vanquished **Natenlode** at this village, and obtained this country.

Four miles to the south-west of **Chardford** is **FORDING-BRIDGE**, an obscure town, situated on the river **Avon**, six miles north of **Ringwood**, and eighty-five from **London**. It was formerly much larger than it is at present, it having suffered greatly by fire, particularly about fifty years ago. It had formerly a market, which is now disused, but it has still a fair on the 9th of September, for colts and pedlars-ware.

At **GODSHILL** near this town is an old camp, now overgrown with trees, but the steepness of one side of it, and a double trench on the other, must have rendered it a place of great strength.

Six miles to the south of **Fordingbridge** is **RINGWOOD**, a town of great antiquity, twenty-nine miles south-west of **Winchester**, and sixty-nine west of **London**. It is situated near the river **Avon**, but the valley in which it lies is frequently overflowed by that river, which here divides it-
self

self into several streams; it is, however, a thriving town, and has good manufactures of druggs, narrow cloths, stockings, and leather. It has a market on Wednesdays, and two fairs, held on the 10th of July, and the 11th of December, for forest colts and pedlary. Some have taken this town to be the Regnum of Antoninus, but Horsley places that town at Chichester. Near this place the duke of Monmouth, after his defeat at Sedgmore in 1685, was taken in a pea-field, hid in a ditch covered with fern, with some green peas in his pocket, he having probably eaten nothing else for two days, and in this town he was kept prisoner till he was carried to London, where he was soon after beheaded.

Eight miles to the south of Ringwood is CHRISTCHURCH, which was antiently called Twinam-bourne, from its being situated at the conflux of the rivers Avon and Stour, near the place where they fall into Christ-church bay, and has received its present name from the dedication of its church to Christ. This town is ten miles east of Poole in Dorsetshire, and 101 west of London. It is a large, populous place, governed by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, bailiffs, and a common-council; and sends two members to parliament, who are elected by a majority of burgesses within and without the borough. Its principal manufactures are silk stockings and gloves. It has a market on Mondays, and two fairs, which are held on Trinity-Thursday, and the 17th of October, for horses and bullocks. This town had formerly a castle, which is now in ruins. In its church was fixed a dean and twenty-four secular canons, so early as the reign of king Edward the Confessor. Their college was rebuilt after the conquest by Ranulph Lambard, bishop of Durham, who was some time dean here; and its revenues were
much

much increased by the elder Richard de Redvers, earl of Devonshire, in the reign of king Henry the First; but earl Baldwin, that nobleman's son, about the year 1150, procured that the secular should be changed into regular canons of the order of St. Augustine. The annual revenues of this priory were, at the suppression, valued at 312l. 7s.

Between the east side of the Avon and Southampton-bay lies NEW FOREST, which is at least forty miles in circumference. This tract of country originally abounded with towns and villages, in which were no less than thirty-six parish-churches; but this whole tract was laid waste, and the inhabitants driven from their houses and estates by king William the First, in order to render it a royal chace. It is remarkable, that in this forest, the monument of his oppression and cruelty, Richard and king William Rufus, two of his sons, and Henry his grandson, lost their lives. Richard was killed by a pestilential blast, and William Rufus was slain by an arrow, shot by Sir Walter Tyrrell at a stag, and Henry, while pursuing his game, was caught by the hair of his head, which was entangled by the bow of a tree, and suspended there till he died. There is an oak still to be seen, which was paled in by king Charles the Second, from a tradition that it was the very tree, on the trunk of which Sir Walter Tyrrell's arrow glanced, when it killed William Rufus. In this forest are nine walks, to each of which a keeper is appointed; besides these, there is a lord warden, two rangers, and a bow-bearer.

In the parish of Hordell is HORDELL CLIFF, which is situated on the sea coast between Christchurch and Lymington, and is in perpendicular height about fifty yards from the sea. It extends about a mile and a half along the shore, and is composed chiefly of red gravel, to about eighteen
or

or twenty yards below the surface; but amongst the gravel very few shells or remains of marine bodies are to be found. In many parts of the cliff are large veins, or rather masses of a moldering, soft clay, through which land-springs are continually trickling down, which by degrees loosen the clay, and cause it to slide away in great beds one below another, and perhaps the frosts may not a little contribute to produce this effect; so that the surface has, in a few years, been greatly worn away. When this fall of the cliff happens, there is then found, perhaps, the greatest variety, both of the turbinated and bivalve shells that were ever met with in any one place in the world, in their original state, and have suffered no change ever since the deluge. Many of these shells are the natural inhabitants of very distant regions, and some of them entirely unknown, either in their natural or fossil state. Towards the bottom of the cliff are frequently found large nodules, resembling a hard reddish iron-stone or marble, yet they are no other than an entire mass of shells; and with this substance the church and other edifices are built.

Eleven miles to the east of Christ-church is LYMINGTON, or LEMINGTON, which is pleasantly seated upon a hill that commands a fine prospect of the Isle of Wight, at the distance of eighteen miles south-west of Southampton, and eighty-five west of London. It is an ancient borough governed by a mayor, aldermen, and burgesses without limitation; the mayor is annually chosen by the burgesses, and sworn at the court-leet of the lord of the manor. The representatives in parliament are also chosen by the burgesses, within and without the borough. The town is small but populous; and tho' the river by which it is seated is not navigable very far up, yet it here forms a very commodious port for shipping. Here is a quay, and officers

ficers appointed to take care of the customs; and likewise several shipwrights, who are chiefly employed in building small vessels for the merchants. Great quantities of salt have been made here, which is said to exceed most in England for preserving flesh; and the south parts of the kingdom were chiefly supplied with it, till the merchants of Liverpool interfered in the trade, and sent the Cheshire salt, which they sold cheaper. The town had a new market-house built about sixty years ago, and the market is kept on Saturdays; besides which, there are two fairs, which are held on the 12th of May, and the 13th of October, for horses, cheese and bacon.

About five miles north-east of Lymington is BEAULIEU, a village that has two fairs, held on the 15th of April, and the 4th of September, for horses and cattle.

At the extremity of a promontory, which projects into the sea, towards the west end of the Isle of Wight, forming the shortest passage to that island, is HURST Castle, which was built by king Henry the Eighth, for the defence of that channel or passage called the Needles, and is therefore a very strong place, in which a garrison is constantly kept; and of this structure we have given an engraved view. To this castle colonel Corbet brought king Charles the First, who was kept here till major-general Harrison carried him up to London, where that unhappy prince was soon after beheaded.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

We have now taken a view of every part of this county, except the Isle of Wight, which is always included in Hampshire; but being a separate island, remarkable for its fertility, and
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The East View of Hurst-Castle, in Hampshire.

some other advantages, it is proper to consider it by itself.

This island was called by the Romans Vecta, Vectis, and Victesis, from which the Saxons are supposed to have formed the names Wicwea and Wuitland; but it does not certainly appear from whence these Roman names received their origin, though some derive them from Guith, the name by which the Britons distinguished this island, and which signifying a separation, has been applied to express the division of this country from the island of Britain, to which it is supposed to have been once joined. The Isle of Wight lies south of Hampshire, and is only separated from the other parts of that county by a narrow rapid channel, which is in no part above four or five miles broad, and in the narrowest part, between Hurst castle just described, and the land near Yarmouth in this island, is only two miles. The Isle of Wight is usually considered as of an elliptical or oval form; but such allusions in the form of islands are always to be considered with great latitude; the coast of the Isle of Wight is far from describing a regular oval; however, its greatest extent from east to west is twenty miles; it grows narrow at the eastern and western extremities; in the centre is twelve miles over from north to south, and is sixty miles in circumference. Newport, the capital town, which is seated nearly in the middle of the island, is about eighty miles distant from London.

The only river in the Isle of Wight, worthy of notice, is termed Cowes river, from two towns near its mouth; one on the east bank called East Cowes, and the other on the west bank called West Cowes; it is also sometimes denominated Newport river, from the town of Newport, which is seated on its west bank in the heart of
the

the country. This river has its source near the southern extremity of the island, and running north, divides it into two nearly equal parts, and then discharges itself into the sea at the most northern point of land, seven miles from Newport.

The air is both pleasant and healthy, whence the inhabitants, being generally strong and active, live to a great age. The soil is remarkably fruitful, the north part affording excellent pasturage and meadow grounds, while the south is a fine corn country. A ridge of mountains runs thro' the middle of the island from east to west, on which are fed a great number of sheep, remarkable for the fineness of their wool, which is as good as any in England, and is of great advantage to the inhabitants. Among the natural productions is here found the milk-white tobacco-pipe clay, of which great quantities are exported; together with a fine white sand, of which drinking-glasses are made. It has been observed of this island, that it yields more corn in one year, than the inhabitants consume in seven; and therefore they annually export great quantities of it. There are in this isle two parks well stocked with deer, but there being only one forest, wood is so scarce, that they are obliged to import it in great quantities. Here is plenty of hares, rabbits, pheasants, partridges, lapwings, and other wild-fowl, besides abundance of sea-fish of all kinds.

Nature has almost encompassed this island with a fortification of rocks, the most dangerous of which, with respect to mariners, are the Shingles and Needles, upon the west side of it; the Mixon on the east, and the Bramble and the Middle on the north; and where these natural bulwarks are wanting, this deficiency has been supplied with castles, forts, and blockhouses, to defend it from any hostile invasion.

This

This island was probably a part of the territories inhabited by the Belgæ, and it was brought under subjection to the Roman empire about the year 45, by Vespasian, in the reign of the emperor Claudian. It was afterwards conquered by Cerdic, king of the West Saxons; he bestowed it on Whitgar, who cruelly put all the British inhabitants to the sword, and peopled it with the Jutes, a tribe of foreigners, who followed the Saxons into England. To these people it remained subject till about the year 650, when it was conquered by Wulfar, king of the Mercians, and given, according to some historians, to Edelwalch, king of the South Saxons, while others affirm, that it was given to Sigebert, king of the East Angles, on condition of his embracing the Christian religion. Cadwaller, king of the West Saxons, is said to have invaded this island some time after, and to have reduced it to his obedience by the massacre of its inhabitants.

Historians are silent about what followed till the year 1066, when Tostius, brother of king Harold, landed here with a fleet of piratical vessels from Flanders; and having put the inhabitants under contribution, sailed away. It has also several times suffered by invasions from the French, particularly in the first year of the reign of Richard the Second, when they landed, burnt several towns, and laid siege to Carisbrook castle, but were obliged to raise it; however, they carried away 1000 marks of silver, which they had obliged the inhabitants to pay them. Afterwards, in the year 1403, a thousand French having landed, seized a great number of cattle, but as they were driving them to their ships, they were attacked in their retreat, when 200 of the invaders were killed, and the cattle recovered. In short, in the year 1545, the island was again invaded by

2000 French, but they were forced back to their ships, leaving their commander, and many of their men, dead behind them, besides a considerable number that were taken prisoners. At length the Isle of Wight, with the neighbouring islands of Jersey and Guernsey, situated near the coast of France, were erected into a kingdom by king Henry the Sixth, and bestowed on Henry de Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, whom he crowned king with his own hands; but the duke dying without issue, these islands lost their regality, and again reverted to the crown.

With respect to the civil and ecclesiastical divisions of this island, the two parts into which it is divided by the river Cowes, are its hundreds or civil divisions, here called the Medinas from Medina, the ancient name of Newport, and are distinguished by their situation, the one being called the West, and the other the East Medina. It contains three market towns, fifty-two parishes, and about 25000 inhabitants. There are in this island several beacons, where they keep watch to give notice of the approach of an enemy; or at least this was the practice not many years ago. After mentioning these beacons, it will be proper to take notice of the tower of St. Catherine, which stands upon the summit of St. Catherine's Hill Down, on the back of the Isle of Wight, about 750 feet higher than high-water-mark, and about half a mile from the sea, commanding one of the most extensive views, both by sea and land, of any place in Britain. It is part of a consecrated building of considerable antiquity, as appears by the Winchester register, in which is this entry, "Walter de Langsterell, admissus ad Hermitorium supra montem de Chale in insula Vectis. Idil. Octobris A. D. 1312." This tower is on the outside octagonal, and within quadrangular;

lar; each side, both of the octagon and quadrangle, is just four feet, its height to the roof is twenty-seven feet, and the perpendicular height of the roof is two feet. It appears to be a Gothic imitation of the eight winds at Athens, built by Andronicus, and has been long a sea-mark, it having been of the most important service in directing our mariners to avoid the adjacent rocky shores in navigating the channel. The military government of the Isle of Wight is a post of great trust and honour, whence it is always vested in a person of the first military rank, as a general of the army, or an admiral of the fleet; and under him are the respective governors of the forts and castles, where there is constantly kept at least a regiment in garrison. In ecclesiastical affairs it is subject to the jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester, and in civil affairs, to the county of Southampton.

Upon landing in this island from Hurst castle you come to YARMOUTH, which is also called SOUTH-YARMOUTH, to distinguish it from Yarmouth in Norfolk. This town stands upon a creek, about a mile from the sea, at the distance of eighty-six miles from London. It was incorporated by king James the First, and is a borough town, governed by a mayor. When a mayor is elected, the inquest, consisting of ten common-councilmen, and two commoners, are shut up in the Guildhall without provisions, &c. till nine out of the twelve agree in the choice. It sends two members to parliament, and has a castle for its defence, a garrison, and about eighty handsome houses, the greatest part of which are built of free-stone. It has a market on Fridays, and a fair on the 25th of July, for toys. At a small distance to the west is Sherpnor castle, which is directly opposite to Hurst castle on the continent;
and

and here used to be a small garrison under a governor.

From Yarmouth a road leads to NEWTON, which lies four miles to the west of it, and is a borough, tho' a poor place, it having nothing worthy of note, except a convenient haven or creek, in the north-west side of the island, between Yarmouth and West Cowes. It is governed by a mayor and burgeses, and enjoys the privilege of sending two members to parliament. It had a market, and has still a fair, on the 22d of July, for old horses and toys.

From hence a road extends eastward to NEWPORT, the principal town in the island, which is situated ten miles west of Yarmouth, and eighty-five south-west of London. It is seated on the west bank of the river Cowes, and is an ancient borough by prescription, but did not send members to parliament before the reign of queen Elizabeth. By a charter of king James the First, it is governed by a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and twelve common-council. It is a populous town, and yet its church is only a chapel of ease to Carebrook, a neighbouring village. Here is a charity school, and a quay, to which vessels of small burthen can come up; but those that are larger, are forced to unlade at Cowes, and the merchandize is carried up to Newport in boats and barges. It has two markets, which are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and are plentifully supplied with provisions; but it has only one fair, which is on Whit-Monday, for old horses and toys.

CARESBOOK, or CARISBROOK castle, is a little to the south of Newport; it stands on a beautiful and exalted eminence, near the center of the Isle of Wight, overlooking the village of Carisbrook. It was a strong fortress before the use
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The North View of Carisbrook Castle, in the Isle of Wight.

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of fire arms; its antiquity is not known. It was originally built by Whitager, a follower of Cerdic, the first king of the West-Saxons, from whom it then took the name of Whitgaraburgh, which was afterwards contracted to Carisbrook. It was repaired by Richard de Rivers, earl of Devon, in the reign of Henry the First, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth. It was magnificently rebuilt in the beginning of the sixteenth century, by the governor of the island, probably at the expence of the crown. King Charles the First was a prisoner in it thirteen months. There is a well belonging to it upwards of 210 feet deep, that is supplied with excellent water, drawn up by an ass's working in a wheel of fifteen feet diameter, in the same manner as a dog turns a spit. There was likewise another well in the keep or dungeon, near 300 feet deep, which is now almost filled up with rubbish. Belonging to it there is a very pretty chapel, in which divine service is performed. The castle falls to ruins very fast. The governor's house was converted to an hospital for the sick of the camp of 1758, the rooms still remaining in the same condition in which they were left. Of this structure we have given the reader an engraved view.

The village of Carisbrook was formerly a considerable town, though it is now gone greatly to decay. Here was formerly a convent of black monks, which was a cell first to Lyre in Normandy, afterwards to the abbey of Montgrace in Yorkshire, and at last to the Cistercians of Sheen.

At QUARRER near Newort was an abbey of Cistercian monks, built and endowed by Baldwin de Rivers, first earl of Devonshire, and lord of this island, who dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. Its annual revenues were valued, at the suppression,

at 1341. a year, by Dugdale, but at 1841. by Speed.

At MARVEL, not far from Newport, was a college of four priests, founded by Henry de Blois, bishop of Winchester, and augmented by Peter Roche, and Henry Woodlock, two of his successors; and in the park, near this place, is a church, in which was a chantry, at the dissolution; and at St. Cross, near Newport, was a priory or hospital before the year 1155, dedicated to the Holy Cross. This was a cell to the abbey of Tirone in France.

At APPLIEDURCOMB, near the coast south-east of Newport, was a cell of Benedictine monks, founded by Isabella de Fortibus, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Third, and made subordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montisburg in Normandy, but was dissolved, with the rest of the alien priories, by king Henry the Fifth, and at Godshill, north of Appledurcomb, is a church, which was early appropriated to the abbey of Lyre in Normandy. At this village John Worley erected a school about 150 years ago, for the education of youth.

EAST and WEST COWES are two pretty towns, about four miles north of Newport; they enjoy a very good trade, and have several rich merchants who reside there. In these towns masters of ships and merchants take provisions on board, and are also furnished with money for bills in London. However, as the situation is low, the air is not esteemed very healthful. At West Cowes, there is a castle which was built by Henry the Eighth, for the defence of this part of the island, and for the safety of Newport; it therefore stands at the mouth of the river, and though it is but a small structure, it is strong enough for the purpose for which it was intended. There was also a castle

at East Cowes, but it has long since been suffered to run to decay. West Cowes has a fair on the Thursday in Whitsun-week, for toys.

At BURTON, near East Cowes, was a priory of canons of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, so early as the reign of king Edward the First. It consisted of several chaplains under the government of an archipresbyter, who, in the nineteenth of Henry the Sixth, gave away the estate of the priory to St. Mary's college in Winchester.

ST. HELEN'S is seated on the eastern part of the island, and though an inconsiderable place, gives name to a spacious road, where men of war often ride. There was here an alien priory of Cluniac monks before the year 1155.

BRADING, which lies to the south-west of St. Helen's, is also an inconsiderable place. It has been a market town, and has still two fairs, which are held on the 12th of May, and the 2d of October, for toys.

About two miles to the south of Brading is SANDOWN, or SANHAM castle, which stands on the north end of Sandown bay, and is said to be the strongest castle in the island; here is constantly kept a garrison, with a governor, a captain, and thirty wardens, besides gunners.

This county has produced the following great men, besides those already mentioned.

William of Wickham, an able statesman, and worthy prelate, in the fourteenth century, was born of mean parentage, at Wickham in Hampshire, in the year 1324. He had his education at Winchester-school, where he made a considerable progress in classical knowledge; but his learning went little farther. His first patron was Nicholas Uvedale, lord of the manor of Wickham, who
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took him into his family, and made him his secretary. By this gentleman he was recommended to Edington, bishop of Winchester, who introduced him to the notice of king Edward the Third; and that prince, finding him a very skilful architect, appointed him surveyor of the royal buildings, with a competent allowance. He superintended the building, both of Windsor-castle, and that at Queenborough; and having executed these, and some other works, with equal judgment and fidelity, he was rewarded by his majesty, with several high preferments, both civil and ecclesiastical. He became successively rector of Pulham in Norfolk; prebendary of Flixton, in the cathedral of Litchfield; dean of the royal free chapel, or the collegiate church of St. Martin's-le-grand, London; warden and justiciary of the king's forests on the south side of Trent, and upon the death of bishop Edington in 1366, he succeeded that prelate in the see of Winchester. Next year he was appointed lord high chancellor of England; and this post he executed with universal applause, till 1370, when, at the king's desire, he resigned it. He was afterwards, by the intrigues of the potent duke of Lancaster, accused of extortion, and stripped of his temporalities; but to these king Edward, who was convinced of his innocence, in a little time restored him. In the reign of king Richard the Second, he again executed the office of chancellor; but foreseeing the troubles which soon after ensued, he voluntarily resigned it, and retired to his diocese. From this time forward he employed himself chiefly in the discharge of his ecclesiastical function; and dying September the 27th, 1404, was interred in the cathedral church of Winchester. His noble foundations have immortalized his memory, particularly his college at Winchester, and the new college

college in Oxford. He likewise rebuilt the cathedral of Winchester in a magnificent style.


John Greaves, an eminent mathematician and antiquary, was born in 1602 at Colemore in Hampshire, and educated at Baliol and Merton college in Oxford. In 1630, he was chosen professor of Geometry in Gresham college, London. About the year 1635 he set out on his travels; and, after visiting Leyden, Paris and Rome, he continued his journey into the eastern countries. He measured the pyramids at Grand Cairo; made a curious collection of Greek, Arabic, and Persian manuscripts; amassed a great number of gems and other antiquities; and returning by Florence and Rome, took shipping for England, where he arrived before Midsummer 1640. Being deprived of his professorship in Gresham college, on account of his neglecting to read lectures, he was chosen about the same time Savilian professor of astronomy in Oxford. In 1645 he proposed a method for correcting the calendar, and introducing the new or Gregorian stile, by omitting the intercalary day of the leap year for forty years successively; and his proposal would probably have been carried into execution, had it not been prevented by the disorders of the times. In 1646 he published his *Pyramidographia, or a Description of the Pyramids in Egypt*; and his *Discourse of the Roman foot, and Denarius*, the year following. He was ejected from his professorship by the parliamentary visitors in 1648; when leaving the university, he retired to London, and continued to prosecute his studies till his death, which happened October the 8th, 1652, in the fiftieth year of his age. He was the author of several works, besides those already mentioned.

Edward Young, a worthy divine and ingenious poet, was the son of a clergyman, and born, in

the year 1684, at Upham in Hampshire. He had his education at Winchester college, and at New college in Oxford. He applied himself, for some time, to the study of the law, though he never practised that profession. In 1728 he took holy orders, and became chaplain to king George the Second, and about two years after he was presented by the college of All-Souls in Oxford (of which he was a fellow) to the rectory of Welwyn in Hertfordshire. Thus settled, he entered into a marriage with the lady Betty Lee, widow of colonel Lee, and daughter to the earl of Litchfield; a lady, it is said, of the most amiable endowments; whose death, with that of her daughter by her first husband, he has pathetically lamented in his *Night Thoughts*, his capital performance. But, notwithstanding this powerful connection, and his own merit, he could never rise to any higher preferment, except that of being clerk of the closet to her royal highness the princess dowager of Wales. He died April the 12th, 1765, and was interred by the side of his wife, in his parish church at Welwyn. He left behind him an only son, to whom, though far from being satisfied with his conduct, he bequeathed the bulk of his fortune. Besides his *Night Thoughts*, he wrote three Tragedies, *Busiris, the Revenge*, and *the Brothers*; a poem, called, *The Last Day*; another, named *The Force of Religion, or Vanquished Love*; *the Love of Fame, or the universal Passion*; *An Estimate of Human Life*; *the Centaur not fabulous*; and some other performances.



HEREFORDSHIRE.

 HIS county received its name from the city of Hereford, and is bounded on the north by Shropshire; on the east by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire; on the south by Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire; and on the west by the Welch counties of Brecknockshire and Radnorshire. It is somewhat of a circular form, and extends about thirty-five miles in length from north to south, thirty in breadth from east to west, and is a hundred and eight miles in circumference. Hereford, which stands near the centre, is a hundred and thirty miles north-west of London.

In the time of the Romans, this county, together with Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire, was inhabited by the Silures, a stout, bold, and warlike people, who long opposed the Roman power under Caractacus their king, being made desperate by the emperor Claudius's declaration, that they should be totally exterminated, but they were at length defeated by Aulus Plautius, and their king Caratacus or Caractacus taken and sent to Rome, where he was led in triumph; but they were not entirely subdued till the reign of Vespasian, when a Roman legion being placed among them, prevented a revolt.

This county continued under the jurisdiction of the Britons, for several centuries after the Saxons established themselves in this island; but

at last, after they had settled their seven kingdoms, it was subdued by a king of Mercia, who annexed it to his own dominions. Yet afterwards it was perpetually harrassed by the Welch, on whose country it borders; on which account Offa, king of Mercia, thought it necessary to make a broad ditch a hundred miles long, called Offa's Dyke, in order to divide it from Wales, some traces of which are still visible. This county was also fortified with no less than twenty-eight castles, but the greatest part of them are now entirely demolished. However, all these precautions did not hinder the Welch from making inroads, particularly in 1056, ten years before the reign of William the First, Griffin, king of South Wales, invaded this county, and defeated the English two miles from Hereford. The Normans, however, soon conquered this county, for they obtained the possession of it almost immediately after the conquest.

The streams that water Herefordshire generally fall from the Welch mountains, and entering this county on the western side, keep an eastern course for a time, and then turning southward, unite in one channel, and part the counties of Gloucester and Monmouth, falling into the Severn, near its mouth. Its principal rivers are the Wye, the Monow, and the Lug.

The course of the Wye we have already described in treating of the rivers of Gloucestershire.

The Monow has its source in a chain of mountains called Hatterell-hills, which, on the south-west, divide this county from Radnorshire; then running south-east, separates Herefordshire from Monmouthshire; and after being increased, by receiving several smaller streams, falls into the Wye at Monmouth.

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The Lug rises in the mountains in the north-east part of Radnorshire, and running by several windings east through Herefordshire to Leominster, turns south-east, and after being joined by some smaller rivers, falls into the Wye near Hereford. The Wye and Lug are made navigable by act of parliament, and are of great service to the country, in carrying off the cyder, and bringing foreign merchandize from Bristol.

The other less considerable rivers are the Frome, the Loden, the Dare, the Arrow, and the Wedel. These rivers, particularly the Wye, abound in salmon, which are always fat, sound, and fit for the table, while those of other rivers are sick and lean.

In this county are also some medicinal waters, particularly on the top of Malvern-hill, is a spring of excellent use for curing sore eyes. About a furlong lower is another, which, Dr. Beale informs us, is of great use in the cure of cancers, if not too far gone. About two miles and a half from Malvern-hills, is another spring called Holywell, said to be of great use in cleansing the skin from freckles, and making it exceeding smooth. It is full of small thin laminae, which appear like the purest silver. Within two miles of this last is another Holywell, which is efficacious in healing old ulcers, and in the cure of sore eyes.

The air of Herefordshire is very agreeable and healthy, though somewhat cold from the neighbourhood of the Welch mountains. As an extraordinary instance of the longevity of the inhabitants of this county, Mr. Serjeant Hoskins, who possessed a considerable estate in it, invited king James the First, while he was on a progress this way, to his house, where, having elegantly en-

tertained him, he procured ten old men and women, whose ages put together amounted to above a thousand years, to dance the morrice before him.

This county produces a good sort of dark coloured marble, which is chiefly found about Ledbury, and is used in the best houses for Chimney-pieces and hearths.

The soil of Herefordshire is extremely fertile, yielding great quantities of corn, particularly excellent wheat and barley, which make exceeding good malt. It is also well stocked with wood. The country abounds with apple-trees, which grow in almost every part of it; and some of these, particularly the red-streaks, thrive better here than in any other county; the hedges on the highways are full of them, and the hogs grow exceeding fat by feeding on the wind-falls, which give a sweet taste, and a reddish colour to their flesh: but the inhabitants receive a much greater advantage from these apples, as they afford such quantities of cyder, that it is the common drink all over the county: a few years ago, when the smooth cyder was preferred to the rough, it was generally esteemed the best in England; and since the rough cyder has been preferred to the smooth, a great quantity of rough cyder has been made here.

It is worth while to take notice of the method of husbandry in that part of the county next to Radnorshire. They there water their pasture and meadow-ground with every little brook that will serve their purpose, diverting the course of the stream, and causing it to run round, or across the ground they would improve. Early in the spring, they let out the water of the new channel upon one part of the field one day, and upon another the next, till they have watered the whole. The difference

difference of the watered land from the rest is very remarkable, the grass being there fresh and green, while in the other parts, it appears as in winter.

Herefordshire affords plenty of game, but the deer are generally a year older before they grow fat than in the south, which is perhaps owing to the severity of the winters, and the longer continuance of the snow upon the hills, for most of the parks stand high. Here is great plenty of woodcocks, and other wild fowl.

With respect to the divisions of Herefordshire, it contains eleven hundreds, in which are one city, and seven market towns, viz. the city of Hereford, Bromyard, Leominster, Ledbury, Kington, Pembridge, Weobley and Ross. It is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford, and includes a hundred and seventy-six parishes, about fifteen thousand houses, and ninety-five thousand six hundred inhabitants. It sends eight members to parliament, two for the county, two for the city of Hereford, two for the borough of Leominster, and two for that of Weobley.

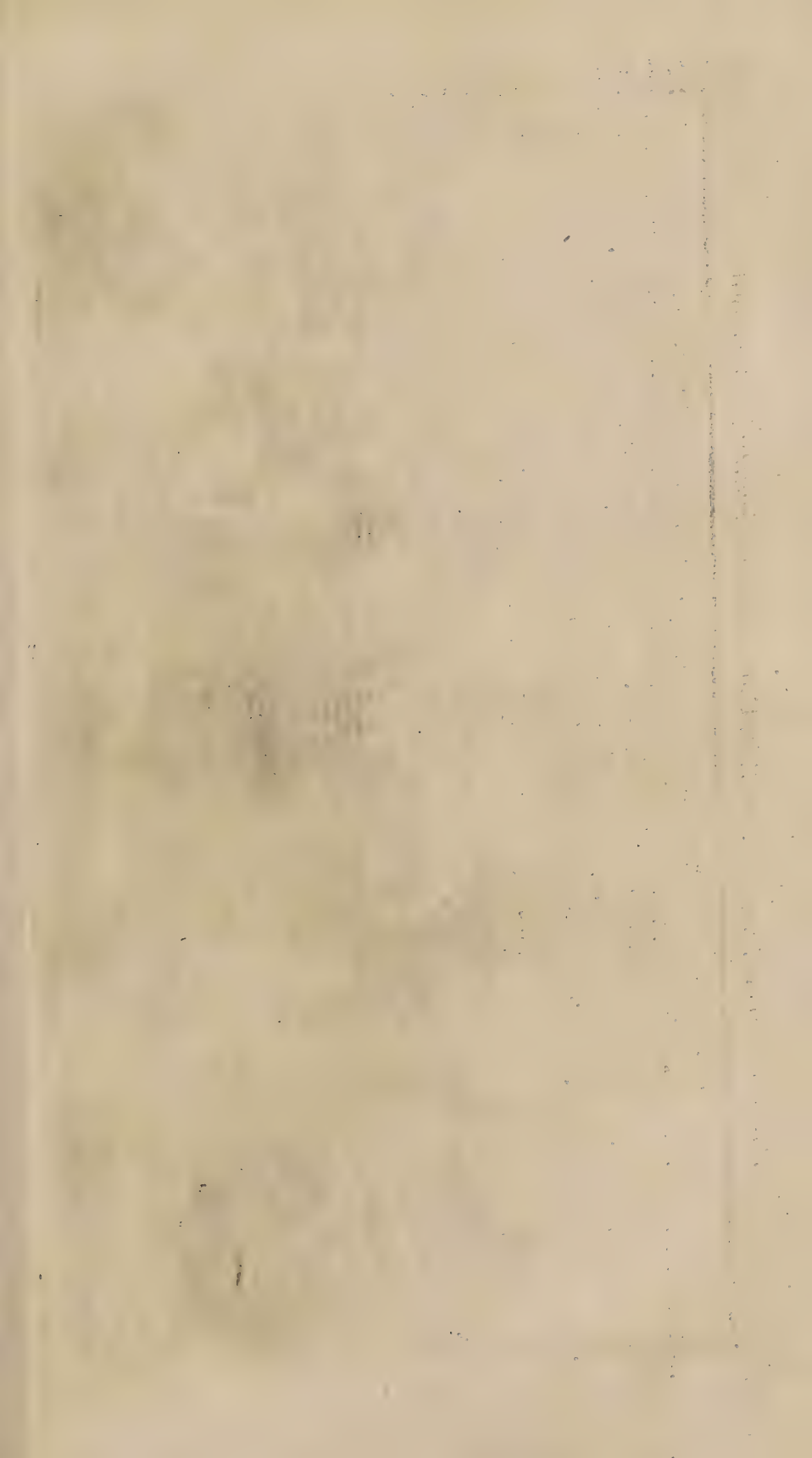
We shall enter this county by the road which leads from Worcester to Hereford. Near this road, on entering this county, is the village of COLWALL, where a poor cottager found a coronet, adorned with diamonds; but to whom it belonged is not known. He, however, sold it to a goldsmith in Gloucester for 31 l. who sold it again to a jeweller in London for 250 l. and the jeweller is said to have sold it for no less than 1500 l. profit.

About two miles to the south-west of this village is LEDBURY, which stands at the south end of a ridge of mountains called Malvern-hills, on

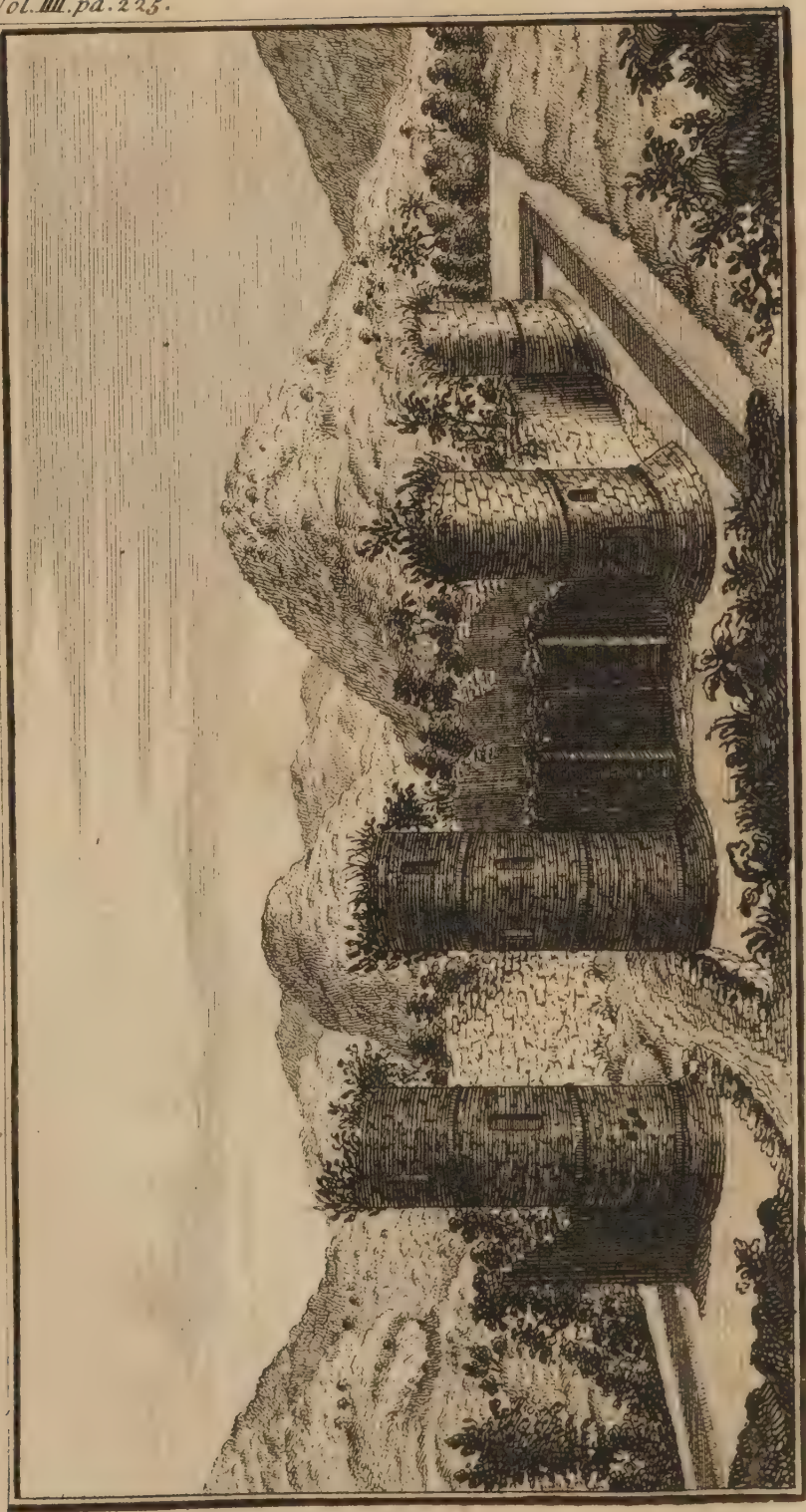
the east side of the county ; fourteen miles east of Hereford, and a hundred and eighteen west-north-west of London. It is seated in rich clayey ground, and is a well built town, chiefly inhabited by clothiers. It has a free-school, and a charity-school, with one of the most considerable markets in the county, which is held on Tuesdays, for corn, cattle and provisions ; and has also five fairs, which are kept on Monday before Easter, and on May 12, for horned cattle and cheese ; on the 22d of June, for horned cattle, cheese and wool ; on the 2d of October, for horned cattle, hops, cheese and pigs ; and on the Monday before the 21st of December, for horned cattle, cheese, and fat hogs. The rectory of this town was anciently divided into several prebends ; but about the year 1400, a college for a master and eight secular priests was founded in the parish church by John Trevenant, bishop of Hereford.

At Ledbury was also an hospital for a master, rector or prior, and several poor brothers and sisters, built by Hugh Foliot, bishop of Hereford, in the year 1232, and dedicated to St. Catharine ; whose yearly revenues, at the suppression, amounted to 22 l. 5 s. clear. It still exists, it being re-founded by queen Elizabeth, in the year 1580, for a master, who is appointed by the dean and chapter of Hereford, seven poor widowers, and three poor widows, who are nominated by the master ; and are each allowed 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. a year, besides cloaths and fire.

At a small distance from hence is BRAMSTILL castle, which stands in a solitary place, at the foot of the west side of Malvern-hills. It is a quadrangular oblong, encompassed by a double ditch of the same form, and appears by several circumstances in the remains themselves, as well



The South West View of 'Braunfild Castle, in the County of Hereford.



as by other concurring tokens to be a place of very great antiquity, tho' we shall not pretend to determine that it is Roman. Of this structure we have given an engraved view. There has been lately discovered in it a very remarkable cavern. Thomas Rede, Esq; is the present proprietor thereof.

On returning into the road to HEREFORD, we proceed to that city, the name of which is purely Saxon, signifying the ford of an army, which perfectly agrees with its situation, it standing on the Wye, which falls into the Severn, and forms part of the barrier between England and Wales. As the two nations were almost constantly at war with each other, this town was generally the head quarters of such Saxon or English forces as were stationed in the county; and here both armies probably forded the river when they passed out of England into Wales, or out of Wales into England. Some, however, have supposed the name of Hereford to have been derived from Ereinuc, the ancient British name of the county; and others have imagined, that both the British and Saxon names were derived from Ariconium, an ancient town near this place, mentioned by Antoninus, which is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake, and Hereford to have been built in its room.

Hereford is situated thirty miles west-north-west of Gloucester, twenty-four west-south-west of Worcester, and one hundred and thirty west-north-west of London, and is thought by some to have been founded by king Edward the Elder, tho' others suppose, that it arose about the time when the Saxon Haptarchy was at its height, and first became considerable about the year 825, on account of a church built here by Milhild, king of the Mercians, to the memory of Ethelbert, king of the

East-Angles, who was murdered by the queen of king Offa, while courting their daughter. This church soon after became a cathedral, and Hereford was made the see of a bishop; but in the reign of Edward the Confessor, Griffin, prince of South Wales, sacked the city, destroyed the cathedral, and carried the bishop away prisoner. Hence this city was at the Norman invasion in ruins, and there were not above one hundred and three men within the city and suburbs; the conqueror, however, rebuilt both the city and cathedral, and also erected a castle, which, though now in ruins, Leland says, was in his time the fairest, largest, and strongest in England. It was surrounded by a double wall, very high, firm, and full of great towers; and where the river did not encompass it, was defended by a moat filled with water. Dr. Stukeley informs us, that there is still a very lofty artificial keep, in which was a well faced with good stone; and by the side of the ditch, is a spring consecrated to St. Ethelbert, and a handsome old stone arch erected over it.

This city, before the civil wars, had six churches, besides the cathedral; but two of them were demolished in those troublesome times. The cathedral which we have already said was destroyed and rebuilt in the reign of William the Conqueror, had several additions made to it by the succeeding bishops; so that it is at present a magnificent Gothic structure, adorned with several ancient monuments; and in the north wing is the shrine of Cantilupe, who is also painted on the wall. It has a bishop, a dean, a chancellor, sixteen canons, twenty-seven prebendaries, a chanter, a treasurer, and twelve vicars choral, with deacons, choristers, and other officers. The bishop has a palace called the castle, which has
nothing

nothing extraordinary, except its pleasant situation; and the other dignitaries have houses, in a place called the Close; the vicars and choristers live in a college, in a collegiate or academical way.

The city, tho' large, is but thinly inhabited, it having no considerable trade to enrich it; for the only manufacture is leather gloves. The trading companies have, however, their distinct halls, laws, and privileges; and here are held the assizes, quarter sessions, and county-courts. The city is governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, a high steward, a deputy steward, a recorder, and town-clerk, with thirty-one common-councilmen, among whom are reckoned the mayor and five of the aldermen, who are justices of the peace; the mayor has his sword-bearer and four serjeants at mace. The chapter-house was a most beautiful structure, but was demolished in the civil wars. Between the cathedral and the bishop's palace, is a venerable pile of building, entirely of stone, not excepting the roof. It consists of two chapels, one above the other, besides the portico and choir. The ground plot is a perfect square, with four pillars in the middle, with arches every way; and over these pillars is a cupola, in the form of an octagon, and on the walls have been a variety of paintings. The portico is very grand, and seems to be an imitation of the works of the Romans, it consisting of many arches retiring inwards, and two pillars on each side, formed of single stones. The lowermost chapel, whose entrance is by a few steps under ground, is dedicated to St. Catharine, as the upper is to St. Cuthbert, which had anciently prebendaries, who were afterwards translated to the church of St. Peter. This structure was built by Walter de Lacy in the reign of William the Conqueror, and endowed by him

him with several estates. This collegiate church, with all the revenues belonging to it, being given in the year 1101, by Hugh de Lacy, the son of Walter, to the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester, the provost and secular canons were changed into a prior and Benedictine monks, who were removed into the east suburb without Bishopsgate, where Robert Betun, bishop of Hereford, gave them ground, on which was erected the monastery of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Guthlac, which was valued, at the dissolution, at 121 l. 3 s. a year.

A small river that appears to have no name, running by the north side of the city, falls on the east side of it into the Wye, which flows by the south side; whence, on every side but the west, it is surrounded by rivers. It often suffers by the swell of the Wye, over which it has a good stone bridge of eight arches. Here is an hospital founded in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and well endowed for twelve poor people; and two charity-schools, one for sixty boys, and the other for forty girls, who are taught and cloathed by subscription. This city gives the title of viscount to the honourable family of Devereux. It has three markets, held on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays; and five fairs, which are kept on the Tuesday after Candlemas-day, for horned cattle, horses, and hops; on Wednesday in Easter-week, for horned cattle and horses; on the 19th of May, for toys; on the 1st of July, for horned cattle and wool; and on the 20th of October, for horned cattle, cheese, and Welsh butter.

There was anciently several religious houses in the suburbs, particularly without the north gate was an hospital of St. John, which, according to Leland, was for some time a house of templars; but when he wrote, was an alms-house, with a chapel.

chapel. Without Frere gate in Hereford was a college of grey friars, founded by Sir William Pembrugge, in the reign of Edward the First, and dedicated to St. Guthlac, the revenues of which were valued, at the dissolution, at 121 l. 3 s. 3 d. a year. In the suburb, without St. Andrew's, or St. Owen's gate, was a chapel of St. Giles, which once had friars of Grisey, or Savignian monks, and then templars. King Richard gave this chapel to the town, upon which it was made an hospital. The friars, preachers, came hither first about the year 1280, and set up a little oratory at Portfield in the ingate suburb, where Sir John Daniel, or Deinvile, knight, began a new priory and church for them, which was finished by king Edward the Third. There was also in the same suburb a chapel of St. Giles, first founded for Lazers, but afterwards converted to the use of other poor, of which the burgessees are patrons. In short, there was an hospital near the bridge over the Wye in Hereford, as early as the year 1226; and it appears from ancient records, that there was a priory in this city, called the hospital of St. Thomas.

At HOME LACY upon the river Wye, about five miles south-east of Hereford, William Fitzwain founded an abbey in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, for premonstratensian canons, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas à Becket. It was endowed with lands in the neighbouring country, but its revenues at the suppression do not appear.

Within a mile of Hereford is a Roman camp, called Oyster-hill, which some have supposed took its name from Ostorius, who was the Roman general, when the army encamped here. And at EATON WALL, a village upon the Wye, two miles

miles east of Hereford, is a camp with single works, which include near forty acres.

At KILPECKE, to the south of Hereford, was a church dedicated to St. David, given by Hugh, the son of William the Norman, (whose family afterwards assumed the name of Kilpecke) to St. Peter's abbey at Gloucester, to which it became a cell in 1134, and thus continued till the time of Thomas Spoffard bishop of Hereford, in the middle of the fifteenth century, when it was altogether united to Gloucester.

At HAROLD'S EWIAS, a village situated on the river Doyer, which runs thro' the Golden Vale, six miles south-west of Kilpecke, was a church dedicated to St. Michael, which, in the year 1100, was given by Harold, lord of Ewias, to the abbey of St. Peter in Gloucester, upon condition that they should settle here a prior, and small convent of black monks. This settlement was accordingly made, but the revenues falling short, it was in 1358 incorporated with the great abbey of Gloucester.

At DOWRE, near Harold's Ewias, Robert de Ewias, youngest son to Harold, in the reign of king Stephen, built an abbey of white monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the dissolution consisted of an abbot, and eight religious, and was valued at 101 l. 5 s. a year.

The Golden Vale is watered by the river Doyer, and is so called from its richness and fertility, for in the spring it is so strewed with flowers, that it appears to be gilded. There are hills on each side covered with woods, and under them on each hand are corn fields, and delightful meadows.

About six miles to the north west of Hereford is KENCHESTER, a village thought to be the ancient Roman town, called Ariconium, from the ruins of which Hereford is supposed to have been built. Two Roman roads cross each other at this place,

place, one of which is called Portway, runs from Bualt in Radnorshire, and extends to Worcester; the other comes from the south, and passes the river Wye at Eaton, where there is a Roman camp and a bridge, from whence it proceeds to Kenchester, and so northwards to Stratford. There are no remains of the ancient splendor of this city, but part of a temple, with a niche five feet high and three broad within, built of Roman brick, stone, and exceeding hard mortar. There are many large foundations near it, and not many years ago, a very fine mosaic floor was found entire. There was a bath likewise found by Sir John Hoskins, about seven feet square, and the pipes of brick were entire. The walls may very easily be traced, some of the stones being left every where, though overgrown with hedges and timber trees. The site of the place is a small eminence, of a squarish form, about which have been found many Roman coins and other antiquities. This village is sheltered towards the north by a prodigious mountain, that is very steep, and crowned with a vast camp, which encompasses the top entirely. Those that will be at the pains to climb up to the summit, will have an extensive prospect, as far as St. Michael's mount in Monmouthshire.

At BROCKHAMPTON, eight miles south-east of Hereford, is a piece of ground called Capellerhills, where is a large square camp double trenched, called Wobury, near half a mile long, tho' it is but narrow.

Sixteen miles south-west of Hereford is Ross, which is commodiously seated, in a fertile soil on the banks of the river Wye, at the distance of one hundred and seventeen miles west-north-west of London. It is a well built, populous place, chiefly consisting of two streets, each about half a mile

mile long, crossing each other in the middle. Here are two charity-schools, one for thirty boys, the other for twenty girls, who are taught and cloathed by subscription. This town is famous for its cyder, and in Camden's time, it had a considerable manufacture of hardware. It is at present much frequented on account of its market and fairs, which are well stocked with cattle and other provisions. Its market is held on Thursdays, and its fairs on Holy Thursday, for horned cattle and sheep; on the 13th of June, for horned cattle and cheese; on the 20th of July, for horned cattle, sheep, horses and wool; on the 10th of October, for horned cattle, cheese, and butter; and on the 11th of December, for horned cattle and pigs.

WILTON, about a mile north-west of Ross, is remarkable for an ancient castle belonging to the family of the Greys. According to some authors, it was built by Hugh Longchamp; but we are informed by Mr. Camden, that king John gave Wilton, with the castle, to Henry Longchamp, who was sheriff of this county in the reign of Richard the First. It stood on the top of a hill, but is now in ruins.

Three miles south of Ross is GOODRICH Castle, which is pleasantly seated on the river Wye, and was given by king John to William Marshal, lord Marshal. It was afterwards the principal seat of the Talbots, earls of Shrewsbury, but is now in possession of the duke of Kent, the noble family of the Greys having ever since the reign of Edward the First been lords of Wilton, and other estates in its neighbourhood. A great part of the walls are still standing, and the gatehouse is almost entire. It appears to have been a very strong, spacious castle, built after the ancient manner. Of the

The South East View of Goodrick Castle, in the County of Hereford.

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the ruins of this structure we have given a view, for the satisfaction of the curious reader.

At FLANESFORD, a village upon the Wye, a little to the south of Ross, Richard Talbot, lord of Castle Goodrich, in the year 1347, built and endowed a small priory of black canons, and dedicated it to St. John Baptist: this was valued at the dissolution at 14 l. 8 s. 9 d. a year.

From Hereford a road extends north-east to BROMYARD, a small town on the road from Worcester to Leominster, situated in a country full of orchards near the river Frome, one hundred and twenty-four miles from London. It is a small, obscure town, half a mile in length, and has a market on Wednesdays, with five fairs, held on the Thursday before the 25th of March, for horses and horned cattle; on the 3d of May; on Whitsun Monday, the Thursday before the 25th of July, and on the Thursday before the 29th of October, for horned cattle and sheep. In the church of Bromyard were three canons or prebendaries, so early as the fifty-third year of king Henry the Third. The bishop of Hereford nominated to this charity, and the church was frequently called a collegiate church or college.

Eight miles north of Hereford is HAMPTON COURT, the seat of the last earl of Coningsby. It was built by Henry Bolingbroke, duke of Lancaster, afterwards king Henry the Fourth, in the form of a castle, and is situated in a valley on the east side of a rapid river, at the foot of a hill called Brynmaur. The gardens are very pleasant, terminated by vast woods, covering all the sloping side of the hill, and there is plenty of water on all sides of the house, for fountains, basons, and canals. The park, which is very fine, is eight miles in circumference, and contains about twelve hundred head of deer. The prospects on one side reach

reach into Wiltshire, and on the other to the Welch mountains. There are here lawns, groves, canals, hills, and plains; particularly a piece of water three quarters of a mile in length, enclosed between two great woods, and the dam, which is made over a valley, is said to have cost 800 l. and to have been finished in a fortnight by two hundred hands. A new river is cut quite thro' the park, the channel of which is, for a considerable extent, hewn out of the rock, and serves to enrich a tract of land that was before barren. Here are laid out new gardens and canals, warrens, decoys, sheep-walks, and pastures for cattle, which supply the house with conveniences and necessaries, without having recourse to a market.

To the north of this park is LEOMINSTER, or LEMSTER, which is fourteen miles north of Hereford, sixty-five north of Bristol, eleven south of Ludlow, forty-two south of Shrewsbury, twenty-three west of Worcester, and one hundred and thirty-six west-north-west of London. It is said to have been originally called *Monasterium Leonis*, from a monastery built in that town by king Merwãld, after he had seen a lion in a vision. Others, however, suppose its present name to be a corruption of *Llan Lien*i, which, they say, it received from the ancient Britons, in whose language it signifies a church of nuns. Others again derive Lemster from *Linum*, the Latin name of flax, the country about it producing the best kind of that valuable plant. This is a large, ancient, populous, and pleasant town, seated in a rich soil, on the banks of the river Lug, over which it has several bridges. The parts about it are noted for exceeding fine wool, and the inhabitants carry on a brisk trade in the woollen manufacture, and also in hats, leather, and several other articles; and the rivers about the town turn several mills, which

are subservient to many useful occupations. The soil is said to be so extremely fertile, that trees and all kinds of vegetables flourish in an amazing manner; thus we are told, that the leaves of the dock are as large as an ordinary tea-table, and those of comfrey as long as a man's arm. It was incorporated by queen Mary, and is governed by a high-steward, a bailiff, a recorder, twelve capital burghesses, out of whom a bailiff is chosen, and a town clerk. It has a large beautiful church, and an alms-house, founded by the widow of a person, who is said to have given away the greatest part of his estate during his life-time, and afterwards to have been treated with disrespect, which is probably alluded to by the figure of a man, in a niche over the entrance of the house, holding up a hatchet, underneath which are the following lines.

“ *Let him that gives his goods before he is dead*
 “ *Take this hatchet, and cut off his head.*”

At the fairs of this town are sold a great number of black cattle and horses, and its trade for wool was so considerable at its market, which was held on Thursday, the same day in which the market at Hereford and Worcester were kept, that those cities petitioned to have the day changed, complaining of their loss of trade; upon which the market-day at Leominster was altered to Friday, since which time its trade has greatly decreased. This town has also the best wheat, barley, wool, and flax in England. It has five fairs, held on the 13th of February, the Tuesday after Midlent-Sunday, and May 13, for horned cattle and horses; on the 10th of July, for horned cattle, horses, wool and Welch butter; and on November 8, for horned cattle, hops, and butter.

Merwald, king of the western part of Mercia, built a monastery at Leominster, about the year 660, and dedicated it to St. Peter, but it was destroyed in the Danish wars. Afterwards here was a college of prebendaries, and then an abbey of nuns, who were all dispersed, and most of their lands possessed by laymen long before the year 1125, when king Henry the First gave the abbey, with every thing belonging to it, to the new abbey he had founded at Reading in Berkshire, to which it became a cell. In 1536 it was endowed with the annual revenue of 660 l. 16 s. 8 d. out of which was paid to Reading, and in other reprises, the value of 448 l. 8 s. 8 d. a year.

On a hill, in the neighbourhood of Leominster, are the ruins of a palace, now called COMFOR castle. And in a park belonging to Croft castle, on the north-west of Leominster, is a large camp with two ditches.

Eight miles north of Leominster is RICHARD'S castle, which took its name from Richard, surnamed Scroop, to whom it belonged in the reign of king Edward the Confessor. It stands, according to Leland, upon the top of a very rocky hill, which, in his time, was well wooded, but the keep, the walls, and the towers, were then going to ruin. Beneath the castle is a spring, called Bone Well, in which a great quantity of small bones are constantly found, and of which there is a supply in a very short time after it is cleared of them. Some imagine these to be the bones of some small fish, and others the bones of frogs; however, it is not likely to be either, for neither fish nor frogs are found in it; but whence or how they come hither, it is not easy to conjecture.

Twelve miles south-west of Hereford is WEOBLEY, or WEBLEY, a small town, one hundred and thirty miles from London. This is an ancient
borough

borough by prescription, but the market, which is kept on Tuesdays, is very small. Here are two charity-schools, one for twenty boys, and another for girls, supported by subscription; and in the reign of king Stephen there was a castle here, but at what time it was demolished is not said. This town sends two members to parliament, and has been very famous for its ale. It has two fairs, the first on Holy Thursday, for horned cattle and horses; and the other three weeks after, for horned cattle, horses, and coarse linen cloth.

At WORMSLEY, situated south-east of Weobley, was a priory of black canons, founded about the reign of king John, by Gilbert Tolbot. They were of the order of St. Victor, and the priory was dedicated to St. Leonard. It had seven canons at the dissolution, and was endowed with the annual revenue of 83*l.* 10*s.*

Four miles north of Webley, in the road from Hereford, is PEMBRIDGE, a small town, seated on the river Arrow, twenty-six miles south-east of Montgomery, and a hundred and thirty west-north-west of London. It has a manufacture of woollen cloth, and a market on Tuesdays, with two fairs, the first on the 12th of May, and the other on the 22d of November, for horned cattle.

Near Pembridge were the manor and church of IENA, or MONKLAND, which, in the reign of William Rufus, was given to the Benedictine monks of St. Peter's abbey, at Castellione, or Conches, in Normandy, to which it became a cell, but afterwards it was given to the Carthusians at Coventry.

At TITLEY, a village on the river Arrow, to the north-west of Pembridge, was a cell to the abbey of Tyrone in France.

WIGMORE, a village about seven miles to the northward of Pembridge, had a small college
of

of three prebendaries, founded in the parish church, in the year 1100; and there are here two fairs, one on the 25th of April, and the other on the 25th of July, for horned cattle, horses and sheep. This place was formerly fortified with a castle, the ruins of which are still remaining, and there is enough of them to shew, that it was a very large and spacious structure; of these ruins we have a given a view for the satisfaction of the curious reader.

This castle was built by William Fitz Osborn, earl of Hereford, and lord of Wight; but the ground belonged at that time, with the manor, to Randolph or Ralph (de Mortuo Mari or) Mortimer, one of king William the Conqueror's captains and knights, who came from Normandy with him. Hugh de Mortimer, his son, founded and endowed an adjacent priory, about the year 1179. In the absence of Ralph, the grandson of Hugh, this was plundered by the Welch, and most of the building burnt, except the church, but it was again restored by the family. The Mortimers of Wigmore were of great dignity and distinction. Edmund de Mortimer, earl of March, married Philippa, only daughter and heiress of Lionel, duke of Clarence, second son of king Edward the Third, after which he was lord lieutenant of Ireland, where he died. His body was brought over and buried in the church of this monastery. It came thus into the crown, by whom it was, in process of time, given to the noble family of Harley, who are barons of Wigmore, earls of Oxford and Mortimer.

At LIMBROOK, near Wigmore, was a cell to Aveney in Normandy; and about a quarter of a mile from the banks of the river Lug in this place, a priory of nuns of the order of St. Austin was founded by one of the Mortimers, in the reign of
Richard



The South View of Wigmores Castle, in the County of Hereford.

The South East View of Brompton Brion Castle, in the County of Hereford.



Richard the First, which continued till the general suppression, when it had six nuns, and yet its revenue was only valued at 22 l. 7 s. 8 d. a year.

BROMPTON BRION, a village about five miles north-west of Wigmore, on the north-west borders of the county, is famous for its castle, which for some ages belonged to a family of distinction, called Brion de Brompton, and continued in their possession till the reign of king Edward the Third, when Robert de Harley, marrying the daughter and heiress of Sir Brion de Brompton, it came into the possession of that noble family. It is at present in the possession of Edward, earl of Oxford and Mortimer, baron Harley of Wigmore. The remains are extremely magnificent, and for the satisfaction of the curious reader, we have given a view of them. The gatehouse is still entire, and the other parts shew, that it has been very strong and spacious. At this village is a fair on the 22d of June, for horned cattle, sheep and wool.

About two miles to the north-east is LANTWARDEN, where there is said to be a perfect Roman camp. This is a single square work, with four ports; and about a quarter of a mile from thence are two barrows; one of which being opened, there were found in it many coals, and some pieces of burnt bones; and in the middle was an urn about two feet and a half high, full of coals, burnt bones and ashes. About a mile from Brompton Brion, on the other side the river Bardfield, was a British camp, now covered with oaks.

KEYNTON, or KINGTON, is seated on the river Arrow, eight miles north of Pembridge, twenty west-north-west of Hereford, and a hundred and thirty-eight west-north-west of London. It is a pretty large well built town, chiefly inhabited by clothiers, who carry on a considerable trade in
narrow

narrow cloths. It has a free-school, and a charity-school; with a large market on Wednesdays, esteemed one of the best in the county for corn, cattle, provisions, and various commodities: it has also four fairs, which are held on the Wednesday before Easter, on Whit-Monday, the 2d of August, and the 4th of September, for cattle, and all sorts of provisions.

About three miles south-east of Keynton is HUNTINGTON, a village which gives name to the hundred, and has two fairs, one on the 28th of June, and the other on the 13th of November, for horned cattle, sheep, lambs and horses.

About eleven miles to the southward of Keynton, and twenty four to the westward of Hereford, is CLIFFORD, a village seated on the river Wye, on the borders of Radnorshire, where was a priory of Cluniac monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and founded by Simon Fitz Richard Fitz Ponce, in the reign of Henry the First. This priory was subordinate to a monastery at Lewis in Suffex, and continued till the suppression, when it was valued by Dugdale, at 57 l. 7 s. a year; but by Speed, at 75 l.

At DOWARD, in the parish of Whitchurch, nineteen miles south of Hereford, and three miles north of Monmouth, is a pretty high hill, on the top of which are the remains of some ancient fortifications, the ditches of which are still visible; and in digging here for iron-ore and lime-stone, broad arrow heads have been found; also the bones of a person of a gigantic size were discovered in a place that seemed to have been arched over. Here was a Cistercian abbey founded by Robert, earl of Ferrers, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It had several benefactors, and was valued at the suppression at 101 l. a year, by Dugdale; but by Speed, at 118 l.

In the forest of ACORNBURY, three miles south of Hereford, a nunnery was founded by Margery, the wife of Walter de Lacy, and dedicated to the Holy Cross. In this house was a prioress, and seven nuns of the order of St. Austin, whose revenue at the suppression was 67 l. 13 s. a year.

In this county were born the following great men.

George lord Carpenter, baron Carpenter, of Killaghy in Ireland, was descended of an ancient family in Herefordshire, and born at Pitchers Ocul in that county, on the 10th of February, 1657. He entered early into the army. His first post in it was that of quarter-master to a regiment of horse; and passing gradually through all the commissions of cornet, lieutenant, and captain, he was at length advanced to a lieutenant colonel. He afterwards purchased the king's own regiment of dragoons, the command of which he retained till his death. He served with reputation and honour in all queen Anne's wars; in the course of which he rose to the rank first of a brigadier-general, afterwards of major-general, and finally, to that of lieutenant-general. He had a considerable share in the battles of Almanza, Almenara, and Brihuega, in the last of which he was dangerously wounded. In the rebellion of 1715, he obliged the rebels at Preston to surrender at discretion; and, in the year 1719, was created baron Carpenter, of Killaghy, in the county of Kilkenny, in the kingdom of Ireland. He died February the 10th, 1732, and was interred at Owselbury in Hampshire.


Robert Devereux, earl of Essex, a gallant soldier, and a great favourite of queen Elizabeth, was the son of Walter Devereux, earl of Essex, and born at Nethewood in Herefordshire, November

the 10th, 1567. He had his education in Trinity college, Cambridge, under the care of Dr. Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. His first appearance at court, at least as a candidate for royal favour, was in the 17th year of his age; when, by the advantage of a fine person, and the charms of an agreeable behaviour, he soon attracted her majesty's notice. In 1686, he accompanied his step-father, the earl of Leicester, to Holland, where he distinguished himself so much in the battle of Zutphen, that he was knighted upon the field. During the terror of the Spanish invasion, he was appointed general of horse, the earl of Leicester acting as commander in chief of the army. Such was his love of military glory, that, when an expedition was undertaken for restoring Don Antonio to the crown of Portugal, Essex, in direct contradiction to her majesty's orders, engaged in the enterprize. He recovered, however, the queen's good graces; commanded the forces that were sent to the assistance of king Henry the Fourth of France; reduced, in 1696, the town of Cadiz; and, the year following, was created earl-marshal of England. But notwithstanding the great favours he had received from his sovereign, and the profound respect he was wont to shew her upon most occasions, such was his lofty spirit, that he could not bear an affront even from her; for when the queen one day, transported by her passion, gave him a box on the ear, Essex, prompted, as it were, by a kind of natural instinct, clapped his hand upon his sword, and swore, that he would not bear such treatment, were it from Henry the Eighth himself. Even after this violent breach, he found means to re-establish his interest, which, however, he was not able long to maintain. For having, in 1598, gone over to Ireland, in order to subdue the great rebel

rebel Tyrone, and failing in that enterprize, he again fell into disgrace; and though he seemed for some time to be in a fair way of recovering her majesty's favour; yet actuated by his own restless spirit, and farther irritated by the indignities offered to him by his enemies, he attempted to raise an insurrection; when, being seized in his own house, he was tried, condemned, and executed, on the 25th of February, 1601. The queen's grief, for his death, it is said, contributed greatly to hasten her own end.



HERTFORDSHIRE.

 **HERTFORDSHIRE**, or **HARTFORDSHIRE**, is an inland county, bounded on the north by Cambridge-shire and Bedfordshire; on the east by Essex; on the south by Middlesex; and on the west by Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, extending thirty-three miles in length from east to west; about thirty miles in breadth from north to south, and a hundred and thirty in circumference.

In the time of the Romans, this county was partly inhabited by the Trinobantes, partly by the Cattieuchlani, and partly by the Cassii, a people, from whom the district, at present called Caisho hundred, in the south-west division of the county, derives its name, and through it passed three military ways. During the Saxon heptarchy, the Mercians, East Saxons, and kings of Kent, divided it among them, and did all in their power to destroy every vestige of antiquity, that future ages might be unable to discover, that this country had been possessed by any other nation; yet notwithstanding this, there are still here several remains of antiquity. When the heptarchy was reduced to one kingdom by king Egbert, who was the first English monarch, he divided the whole nation into thirty-five counties, and called this Hertfordshire, from Hertford its principal town. After the Danes had ravaged England, king Alfred found it necessary to divide the counties into hundreds, and ordered that they should keep

keep continual watch and ward to prevent robberies ; and if any robbery was committed by daylight, the hundred was appointed to pay it, which custom is continued to this day.

This county is well watered with rivers and brooks, the principal of which are the Lee, or Lea, the Stort, the Coln, the Ver, and the New River. We have already described the course of the Lee, in our account of Essex. The Stort rises in the north-east part of the county, and passing by bishop Stortford, separates the counties of Hertford and Essex, and falls into the river Lee at a small distance from Haddefdon.

The Coln rises near Bishops Hatfield, and running south-west, passes by Watford ; and soon after running almost directly south, separates Buckinghamshire from Middlesex, and discharges itself into the Thames, near Staines.

The river Ver, or More, rises in the west part of the county, and running south-east, passes by St. Alban's ; and then running due south, falls into the Coln.

The New River has its source near Ware in this county, and is conveyed in an artificial channel, not more than ten feet wide, to London. This channel is cut thro' several rising grounds ; and though the distance of its source from London is but twenty miles, Sir Hugh Middleton, who performed the important service to the city, of bringing this river to it, in order to avoid the eminences and vallies in the way, was obliged to make it run a course of almost thirty-nine miles, and to carry it over two vallies, in long wooden troughs, lined with lead, one of these, which is at Buthill, is six hundred and sixty feet in length, and thirty in height ; under which, for the passage of the land-waters, is an arch so capacious, as to admit under it the largest waggon laden

with hay or straw ; the other near Highbury, is four hundred and sixty-two feet long, and seventeen in height, where it is raised along the top of high artificial banks, and at the bottom of the hollow, supported by poles, so that any person may walk under it ; in short, over and under this river, which sometimes rises thus high, and at others is conveyed under ground, run several considerable currents of land-waters ; and both above and below it, a great number of brooks, rills, and water-courses, have their passage. This river is collected in a large bason near Islington, from whence it is thrown, by an engine worked by horses, into a bason in a still higher situation. From these basons the water is conveyed, in a great variety of directions, through fifty-eight wooden pipes, to different quarters of the city. In these pipes of wood, an almost infinite number of leaden pipes are inserted, and conducted under ground, one to every house, in all the streets, lanes, courts, and alleys of that vast metropolis. Before this stupendous work was accomplished, the city was chiefly supplied with water by conduits, which were erected in such places as were thought most convenient ; whence the neighbouring inhabitants fetched it in buckets, or bought it of the water-carriers ; but this method being attended with great labour and inconvenience, a scheme was projected to conduct the water, now called the New River, to London ; and this scheme being approved by the government, the city was impowered to carry it into execution, by two acts of parliament, passed in the reign of king James the First ; but after some progress in the work, the magistrates were discouraged by the expence, and gave orders that it should be discontinued ; but the work given up by this opulent city, on account of the charge being thought too great,

was

was resumed by the above public-spirited gentleman, Mr. Middleton, a goldsmith of London, who, at his own expence, accomplished it in the manner already related, to the great injury of his fortune. He had, however, a small stipend allowed him out of the gain, which afterwards accrued from it, and likewise received the honour of knighthood; several persons were then formed into a corporation, for directing and preserving the works; and this corporation still subsists, by the names of the Governors and Company of the New River.

There are many smaller streams in this county than those we have just mentioned; for which reason Hertfordshire has a great number of meadows, and a variety of river-fish, as carp, salmon, bream, trouts, tench, perch, roches, eels, and gudgeons.

In this county are also two medicinal springs, one at Barnet, and the other at Northall. The waters of both seem to be much of the same nature; that at Northall is a little brackish and bitterish in the throat; but is not so nauseous as that of Epsom. Barnet water is bitterer than the former, but they both will curdle with soap, and let fall a grumous sediment with oil of tartar. With a solution of alum, they will let fall white grumes, which experiment shews they are not aluminous: but with galls, they turn of a wheyish colour; and with logwood, of a deep red. A gallon of Northall water will yield four drams, and twelve grains, of very white sediment; and a gallon of that at Barnet, twenty grains of a brackish bitter sediment. From other experiments it appears, that both these waters contain calcarious nitre, with a small mixture of sea-salt, and a little lime-stone. They are both of a purging

quality; but are not half so strong as that at Epsom.

The air of this county is so pure and salubrious, that it is frequently recommended by physicians for the recovery of the sick; and on this account, as well as its being at no great distance from the capital, it is adorned with a great number of very fine seats.

The soil abounds greatly in chalk, which renders it very fertile; but the vale of Wringtonale, which crosses the northern part of the county, where the soil is mixed with white marle, yields the best wheat and barley; and the bread and malt made of it are in high esteem. However, the pastures are but indifferent; those that are dry, generally producing fern and broom; and the wet, moss and rushes; but by an invention lately put in practice, the wet lands are greatly improved by what is called Bush draining.

A very ingenious gentleman, who has examined the different methods of husbandry, practised in the several counties of England, in an excellent work published on that subject, observes, that between Barnet and Hatfield, the corn-grounds were far from bearing such crops as he expected. “ Two things, says he, are very bad, their ditches
“ and their ploughs, both very material to a
“ farm. Too many of the hedges are dead ones;
“ boughs interlaced four feet high in stakes; and
“ white thorn planted by the side of it, intermix-
“ ed with fallow stakes, and without any ditches;
“ this practice is a wretched one, for the fallow
“ is so quick a grower as to overtop the thorns,
“ and drip them to death; nor is it of any use as
“ a fence itself, growing ragged and open at
“ bottom. In Suffolk, &c. every one that is
“ curious in fences, keeps all plants from among
“ the thorns, because none unites with them;
“ and

“ and gaps are for ever made in the hedges, by
 “ means of taking hold of fallows, hazels, oaks,
 “ ashes, or such plants, which are not offensive-
 “ ly armed ; whereas a white-thorn fence is im-
 “ penetrable ; and their having no ditches, ex-
 “ poses the young plants entirely to the cattle.

“ After they are grown up and come to be
 “ plashed, they become very strong, though at a
 “ great expence of wood ; for they lay down an
 “ immense quantity of boughs, many bigger than
 “ a stout man’s thigh, and they afterwards con-
 “ tinuing to grow, form a prodigious strong
 “ hedge ; but yet the want of ditches to them
 “ make them very easy to pass ; and when new
 “ done, the passage is as easy as a stile. They
 “ cut little trenches, about eighteen inches wide
 “ and twelve deep, and call them ditches ; but
 “ in many of their flat fields their corn in winter
 “ is half spoiled, for want of good ones to drain
 “ the water off. Their ploughs are much worse
 “ than their hedges, so exceedingly large and
 “ heavy, that the mere draft of the weight is
 “ sufficient for two horses ; a share commonly
 “ weighs sixty or seventy pounds. From hence
 “ results the practice of never stirring with less
 “ than four horses, on a light loose gravel, after
 “ it has received three or four earths for turnips ;
 “ the fifth, nay the tenth, would not be given
 “ without strong horses and two stout men, one
 “ to hold and another to drive, and never do
 “ above an acre. Much stronger lands than any
 “ in this neighbourhood are, in Suffolk and Es-
 “ sex, broke up the first time with a pair of horses
 “ and one man, who both plows and drives ;
 “ but then one of these implements weighs as
 “ much as five of the ploughs of those counties.
 “ The loss, from this mistaken practice, must be
 “ amazingly great, since the difference is just half ;

“ for the wear of these immense ploughs cannot be
 “ less than double that of the little ones, so that
 “ a change would at once double the quantity of
 “ land plowed, and at the same expence. Sup-
 “ pose a farmer has two hundred acres of arable
 “ land, and that he gives them, upon an average,
 “ three earths a year; this is plowing six hun-
 “ dred acres once; now if we call an earth 5 s.
 “ which (and 5 s. 6 d.) is the price in Hertfordshire,
 “ these two hundred acres cost him 150 l.
 “ whereas, by dividing his team, he might either
 “ save half that sum, or give his land double the
 “ number of stirrings; besides enjoying the capi-
 “ tal advantage of being twice as speedy in critical
 “ seed-times: a point of infinite importance.
 “ I should remark, that they do not plow either
 “ deeper or more true than in other countries;
 “ they sometimes carry a much broader furrow,
 “ but that is a most pernicious practice, and ab-
 “ horred by all good husbandmen; nor is it of
 “ any consequence to the farmer, as his teams do
 “ but an acre a day.”

The uncommon plants growing wild in this county are:

Small mountainous round-leaved chick-weed,
 resembling stone-basil, *Alfne montana minima aci-
 ni facie rotundi-folia.* An *alfnes minoris alia*,
 Thal. Harcyn. In the mountainous parts of this
 county, on the borders of Buckinghamshire near
 Chalfont, St. Peter.

Yellow loosestrife, with a globular tuft of
 flowers, *Lyfimachia lutea flore globoso*, Ger. Park.
 Said to be found near Kings Langley.

Pepper-mint, or mint having the taste of pep-
 per. *Mentha piperata.* Found in this county by
 Dr. Eales.

Fresh-water-soldier, or water-aloe, *Militaris
 aizoides*, Ger. In the new ditches of Hatfield.

Marsh

Marsh tway-blade, *Ophris five bifolium palustre*, Park. On the wet grounds between Hatfield and St. Albans. Park. p. 505.

The greater fly-orchis, *Orchis myodes major*, Park. *Major flore grandiusculo*, J. B. Found near Welling in Hertfordshire.

Broad-leaved bastard-hellebore, with a white close flower, *Helleborine latifolio flore albo clauso*. Found by Dr. Eales, near Diggeswell in this county.

Jagged cow-parsnep, *Sphondylium montanum minus augustifolium tenuiter laciniatum*, near Tring in this county.

Hertfordshire lies in the province of Canterbury, and is partly in the diocese of London, and partly in that of Lincoln. It contains one hundred and twenty parishes, and is divided into eight hundreds; but the justices of the peace, for the greater convenience of themselves and the people, have divided the whole county into three parts, in each of which they have their several courts or petty sessions. It has no city, but contains eighteen market towns, and sends six members to parliament, namely, two knights of the shire for the county, two burgeses for Hertford, and two for St. Albans.

The first town on entering this county, in the road from London to Dunstable, is BARNET, also called HIGH BARNET, from its situation on the top of a hill, and CHEAPING BARNET, from its having a cheap or market, to distinguish it from a village in its neighbourhood, called East Barnet. This is a well frequented place on the great north road, eleven miles north-west of London, and is therefore well supplied with inns. The church here is seated in the middle of the town, and is a chapel of ease to East Barnet. In this town is a free-school founded by queen Elizabeth, and endowed

dowed partly by her majesty, and partly by alderman Owen of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the fishmonger's company, who have the privilege of appointing twenty-four governors, who choose the master and usher. These teach seven children gratis, and all the rest of the parish for five shillings a quarter. There is here also an alms-house, founded and endowed for six widows, by James Ravenscroft, Esq; In the time of the Saxons this place was a large wood, granted to the church of St. Albans, and confirmed by several kings, by the name of Berdnet, which, in the Saxon tongue, signifies a little hill. King Henry the Second granted the abbots of St. Albans the privilege of having a market kept here on Mondays, which still continues, and is famous for corn and cattle, and especially swine. It has two fairs, namely, on April 8, 9, and 10, and on September 4, 5, and 6, for English, Welch and Scotch cattle.

This place is famous for a bloody battle fought upon Gladmore-common in its neighbourhood, on the 14th of April 1468, between the two houses of York and Lancaster. This battle began early in the morning, and lasted till noon; and never, perhaps, had two armies been seen to fight with more bravery and obstinacy; but at length Edward the Fourth gained the victory, and the great earl of Warwick, who fought for Henry the Sixth, fell covered with wounds. The place supposed to be the field of battle is a green spot, a little before the meeting of the St. Albans and Hatfield roads; and here in the year 1740 a stone column was erected, on which is inscribed a long account of that battle.

ELSTREE, IDLESTREE, or EAGLESTREE, about three miles to the south-west of Barnet, upon the borders of Middlesex, is now a small village,
built

built upon the Roman road called Watlingstreet, and has a church, which is but a mean structure. This is thought by Norden to have been the Roman city called Sullonicae mentioned by Antoninus, as at the distance of twelve miles from London; but Mr. Camden and Horsley are of opinion, that it was on Brockley-hill in this neighbourhood, many urns, coins, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there; and at Pennywell, near Brockley-hill, are still visible the foundations of several walls, which, according to tradition, are the remains of a city.

ST. ALBANS, which is twelve miles south-east of Dunstable, and twenty-one north-west of London, received its name from an abbey built there in the year 703, to the memory of Albanus, the first martyr of Britain, who suffered in the persecution under the emperor Dioclesian, and was canonized as a saint. It is generally considered as having risen out of the ruins of the ancient Verulam, which was seated on the other side of the river Ver. When Julius Caesar invaded this island, Verulam was a large and populous city, but there are now no other remains of it but the ruins of walls, some tessellated pavements, and Roman coins, that from time to time have been discovered by digging. It was seated on a gentle descent on the western side of the hill, fortified with a mud wall and ditch, and encompassed with woods and marshes. The inhabitants enjoyed the same rights and privileges as the Roman citizens, and this so firmly united them to the Romans, that Boadicea, considering them as enemies, razed the city, and made a most dreadful slaughter of the Romans and their allies; but Suetonius Paulinus, lieutenant of Britain, returning from the conquest of the Isle of Man with the fourteenth legion and ten thousand auxiliaries,

ries, immediately attacked the Britons, gained a complete victory, and put eighty thousand to the sword. After this, the city was rebuilt, and the Britons lived very quietly under the Roman government till the year 304, when Dioclesian began to persecute the christians. At length, when the Saxons had gained a footing here, they conquered this Roman city, and called it Werlamcester, and Watlingecester, from the famous Roman highway called Watlingstreet, on which it stands.

One part of the ditch at Verulam is still visible, it is double, but irregularly formed. The streets likewise may still be traced, especially when the corn is nearly ripe. The composition of the Roman wall was three feet of layers of flint, and one foot made up of three courses of Roman brick; and there were round holes quite through the wall, about eight yards distant from each other. That part of the wall by the west gate, called Gorham block, is twelve feet thick. It would be endless to recount all the antiquities that have been dug up at Verulam: several mosaic pavements have been seen, and one in particular was found in 1719.

St. Albans sent members to parliament as early as any borough in the kingdom. It is incorporated by charter, and governed by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, twelve aldermen, a town-clerk, and twenty-four assistants. This borough has a district called a Liberty, which has a jurisdiction both in civil and ecclesiastical matters, peculiar to itself, including the parishes of Barnet, Sandridge, Redburne, Cudicot, Shepehele, Bushy, Elstre, Langley-Abbots, Sarret, Walden-Abbots, Hoxton, Ridge, Norton, Rickmansworth, and Watford. This liberty has a jail, and a jail-delivery at St. Alban's four times a year, on the Thursday after the quarter sessions at Hertford. St. Albans

The North West View of St. Albans Abbey, in the County of Hertford.



is divided into four wards, in each of which is a constable and two churchwardens.

Though this town is far from being remarkable for its beauty and the elegance of its buildings, the country round it, being extremely pleasant, abounds with fine seats. The town is both large and populous, and has four parish churches, St. Alban's, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and St. Michael's, besides several meeting-houses. St. Alban's was the abbey-church founded by Offa, king of the Mercians, in the year 793, on the spot where St. Alban was martyred. King Offa afterwards caused several houses to be built near this abbey for the reception of strangers and travellers, as well as for the use of the servants and officers belonging to it; so that in process of time it increased to a town. In the year 1154, Nicholas bishop of Abba, who was born near this monastery, being chosen pope, assumed the name of Adrian the Fourth, and granted many privileges to this abbey, causing the abbot to be the first in England, both in order and dignity. At the time of the dissolution this abbey was valued at 2102l. a year by Dugdale, but at 2510l. by Speed. The inhabitants then purchased that part of it that is still standing, and converted it into a parish church. It is at present a large pile of building, that may justly claim a particular regard both for its antiquity and beauty, of which the reader will be a judge, from the engraved view we have given of it. In this ancient edifice is a funeral monument and effigies of king Offa, its founder, seated on his throne. On the east side stood the shrine of St. Alban, and in the south isle, near the above shrine, is the monument of Humphrey, brother to king Henry the Fifth, commonly distinguished by the title of the good duke of Gloucester. It is adorned with a du-
cal

cal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered. In niches on one side are seventeen kings, but in the niches on the other there are no statues remaining. On this tomb is a Latin inscription, alluding to the pretended miraculous cure of a blind man detected by the duke.

This inscription has been thus translated into English :

Sacred to the pious memory of an excellent man.
Interr'd within this consecrated ground,
Lies he whom Henry his protector found.
Good Humphrey, Glo'ster's duke, who well could
spy

Fraud couch'd within the blind impostor's eye.
His country's light, the state's rever'd support,
Who peace, and rising learning deign'd to court ;
Whence his rich library, at Oxford plac'd,
Her ample schools with sacred influence grac'd :
Yet fell beneath an envious woman's wile,
Both to herself, her king and kingdom vile :
Who scarce allow'd his bones this spot of land :
Yet spite of envy shall his glory stand.

About fifty years ago was discovered in digging a grave, a pair of stairs that led down into a vault, in which was found a leaden coffin, wherein the duke of Gloucester's corpse was preserved almost entire, by a kind of pickle in which it lay ; only the flesh was wasted from the legs, the pickle at that end of the coffin being dried up. In this church was a very noble font of solid brass, given it by Sir Richard Lea, master of the pioneers, who took it, among other plunder out of Scotland in the year 1543, where it served as a font for baptizing the children of the royal family, but was placed here as a common baptistry. It was, however, carried away in the civil wars in
the

the reign of king Charles the First, and converted into money.

St. Peter's church is situated on the north side of the town, and St. Michael's on the north-west; and both of them are handsome structures. In the latter, among other monuments, is one in memory of the famous Francis Bacon lord Verulam, with his effigy in alabaster seated in an elbow chair.

In the middle of the town of St. Alban's king Edward the First erected a very stately cross in memory of queen Eleanor, who dying in Lincolnshire, was carried thro' this town to Westminster, in order to be interred there. Here are two charity-schools, one for twenty-eight boys, who are all cloathed; the other for twenty-one girls, of whom fourteen only are cloathed. This town gives the title of duke to the noble family of Beauclerk. The great duke of Marlborough erected a seat here called Holloway-house, and several neat almshouses were built here by him and his dutchess dowager, who caused a fine statue of the late queen Anne, carved by Mr. Ryssbrack, to be erected, on the pedestal of which she inscribed a character of her majesty. This town sends two members to parliament, but has no particular manufacture: it has two markets, held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and three fairs, which are kept on the 25th of March, the 17th of June, and the 29th of September, for horses, cows and sheep.

At KINGSBURY, about a mile north-west of St. Alban's, was a palace of the Saxon kings, which was demolished in the reign of king Stephen.

REDBURN, a large village about four miles north-west of St. Alban's, is a great thoroughfare, seated on the ancient Roman way called Wat-

Watlingstreet, and has several inns. Camden imagines, that the Roman station named Durobri-vae was at this place, but Horsley would have that station to be either at Dunstable or Fenny Stratford. This village has four fairs, which are held on the first Wednesday after New-year's-day; the first of January; on Wednesday in Easter week, and on Wednesday in Whitsun-week, for toys. This village was anciently very famous for the pretended reliicks of Amphibalus the martyr, who converted St. Albanus to christianity. In this village was a cell of a prior and a few Benedictine monks from St. Alban's, dedicated to St. Amphibalus the martyr and his companions. This cell was in being in the year 1195.

At ST. JULIAN's near St. Alban's was an hospital for leprous men, and about the year 1190, Garinus, or Warine, abbot of St. Alban's, founded in the fields adjoining an hospital for poor sick and leprous women, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This was called St. Mary de la Pray, de Pratis, or de Pree, and at length became so well endowed, that there were maintained in it a prioress and several nuns of the order of St. Benedict. Cardinal Wolsey, about the year 1528, procured a bull from pope Clement the Eighth, for the suppression of this house, and annexing it to the abbey of St. Alban's; but in the twentieth year of Henry the Eighth, he obtained a grant of it, with all the lands belonging to it, for himself. After the cardinal's attainder, the king gave it, by way of exchange, to St. Alban's abbey.

About seven miles to the northward of St. Alban's is FLAMSTED, which is situated a little out of the road, and had formerly a charter for holding a market on Thursdays, and a fair, that was to continue five days, but they have been long disused. The church stands on a hill, and has
three

three handsome isles, with a square tower and a lofty spire covered with lead; and in the chancel are several monuments. In this parish Roger de Toney founded a small priory for a prioress, and ten nuns of the order of St. Benedict, in the reign of king Stephen, which was dedicated to St. Giles, and valued at the dissolution at 30 l. 19 s. 8 d. a year. The land here is clay mixt with flints, which lie so thick, that after a shower, it seems to be nothing but a heap of stones, and yet it bears very good corn.

We shall now enter this county at RICKMANSWORTH on its south-east borders. The name of this town is said to be a corruption of Rickmearefwearth, which it is supposed to have received from its situation on a neck of land, almost surrounded by a nameless river, which runs into the Coln, and forms a considerable pool of water. It stands low, in a black, moorish, cold soil, ten miles south by west of St. Alban's, and eighteen from London. It is governed by two constables, and two headboroughs. The church is a handsome structure, and has a tower, and there are several monuments in the church and chancel. Here is a charity-school for twenty boys and ten girls, with two alms-houses, one for five widows, and the other for four. There are several mills upon the neighbouring streams, which occasion a great quantity of wheat to be brought thither; but as the town stands low, the meadows are moorish, cold and mossy; nor are the higher grounds, especially on the north side, more fertile, they being stony and barren. It has a small market on Saturdays, and three fairs, which are held on the 20th of July, and the 24th of November, for horses, black cattle, sheep and hogs; and on the Saturday before the third Monday in September, for hiring servants.

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This town gave birth to Sir Thomas White, merchant-taylor of London, who founded Gloucester-hall, and St. John's college in Oxford.

About a mile south-east of Rickmansworth is MORE PARK, in which is a fine house seated on the side of a hill, and has been esteemed the best piece of brick-work in England. It belonged to the duke of Monmouth, and his dutchess, on whom it was settled by marriage, sold it in the year 1720 to Benjamin Heskins Stiles, Esq; who built a south front of stone with colonades, and an opening was made through a hill that obstructed the view towards Uxbridge. A north front was also erected, and the hill towards Watford cut through for a vista. In digging this hill, there were found veins of sea-sand, with muscles in it. This house afterwards belonged to the late lord Anson.

About four miles to the north-east of Rickmansworth is WATFORD, by some supposed to have been originally called Watlingford. It is seated on the river Coln, and had anciently a ford at the south end of the town, from whence it is supposed to have its name; but others tell us, that the Pretorian, or Consular way, made by the Romans, called Watlingstreet, crosses the Coln near it, and passes on to Verulam, whence it obtained the name of Watlingford. It is situated seven miles to the southward of St. Alban's, and seventeen west by north of London, and consists of one long street, which is extremely dirty in the winter; and the waters of the river, at the entrance of the town, are frequently so much swelled by floods, as to be impassable. The church stands near the town, and contains three large isles, a chancel, with two chapels on each side, and a square tower. Here is a handsome free-school built in 1709, by Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller, with a charity-school for forty boys, who are both taught
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and cloathed; and several alms-houses. The market, which is on Tuesdays, is well supplied with provisions and other necessaries; and there is a fair, on Trinity-Monday and Tuesday for horses, cows, sheep, and the hiring of servants.

CASHIOBURY, near Watford, is said to have been the seat of the kings of Mercia, during the heptarchy, till Offa gave it to the monastery of St. Alban's. It was, however, bestowed by Henry the Eighth on Richard Morison, Esq; from whom it passed to Arthur, lord Capel, baron Hadham, and from him descended to the earls of Essex, who have here a noble seat erected in the form of an H, with a large park, adorned with fine woods and walks; The front faces the south-east, and looks directly on the house in More park; before it is a fine dry lawn, which immediately, after the heaviest rains, may be rode or walked on, as on the driest downs; a little below the house is a river, which winds through the park, and in the driest seasons runs with a fine stream, that affords plenty of most sorts of fresh-water fish. On the north and east sides of the house are walks thro' woods, planted by the famous Le Notre, in the reign of king Charles the Second; but most of the walks are too narrow for their length, and too regular for the modern taste. On the other side of the river, the ground rises to a considerable height, which affords an agreeable variety; for part of them being covered with woods, appearing at a proper distance from the front of the house, have a fine effect.

From Watford a road extends north-westward to Buckingham, in this road is ABBOTS LANGLEY, which is situated on a hill, four miles to the north-west of Watford, and five miles south-west of St. Alban's. A little to the east of King's Langley, to which king John granted the manor
of

of this place, in order to cloath the monks of the abbey there. The church is seated in the middle of the town, and has a handsome tower at the west end. This place gives the title of baron to the lord Raymond, who has a seat in this neighbourhood.

This town is famous for giving birth to pope Adrian, the only Englishman that had ever the honour of sitting in the papal chair. His original name was Nicholas Breakspear. Being refused admittance into the monastery of his native place, he travelled into France, where he became a regular clerk in the monastery of St. Rufus in Provence, and was afterwards chosen superior of that house. In 1146, Pope Eugenius the Third created him cardinal bishop of St. Alba, and sent him to convert the Danes and Norwegians, whom he reclaimed from idolatry. At his return to Rome, he was received with great marks of honour; and, upon the death of pope Anastasius, who had succeeded Eugenius, the bishop of Alba, was unanimously advanced to the papal throne, and took the name of Adrian. He died September the 1st, 1159, in the fifth year of his pontificate, and was buried in St. Peter's church at Rome.

KING'S LANGLEY is situated about a mile to the west of Abbots Langley, and is so called from its being anciently one of the royal seats of the kings of England. King Edward the Third built a palace here, in which his son Edmund of Langley was born and buried. The palace, park and manor, were given by James the First, to his eldest son prince Henry, and after his death, to prince Charles, who after he came to the throne, granted it to Sir Charles Morison, for ninety-nine years, from whom it has passed into several hands.

Here was a house of preaching friars, said to be first founded by Roger, the son of Robert Helly, an English baron, but enlarged in buildings, and encreased in revenues, by the munificence of Edward the First, Edward the Second, Edward the Third, and Edward the Fourth, so as to exceed all the houses of this order in England, it being valued on the suppression at 122 l. a year. Queen Mary restored this house to a prioress and nuns; but it was finally dissolved in the first year of queen Elizabeth, who gave the revenues to the bishop of Ely, and his successors.

About seven miles to the northward of Watford is HEMPSTEAD, which is supposed to have derived its name from the great growth of hemp in that place. It stands among hills, upon a small river called the Gade, and is a pretty populous place, five miles east of Berkhamsted, and twenty-six north-west of London. The church, which is near the town, has a handsome tower, with a tall spire, which is the chief ornament of the place, and has a good ring of bells. This town was incorporated by king Henry the Eighth. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are empowered to have a common seal, and a pye-powder-court, at the market and fairs. The market is esteemed one of the greatest in England for wheat, 20,000 l. a week being often returned only for meal; and besides the trade in corn and meal, several thousand pounds a week are returned in straw-hats. The market is on Thursdays, and it has a fair on the first Thursday after Whitsun-week, for horses, cows, sheep, and hiring servants.

BERKHAMSTED is situated on the borders of Buckinghamshire, five miles east of Hempstead, nine miles south of Dunstable, and thirty miles from London. Its name signifies a town among hills.

hills. King Henry the Second kept his court here, and granted the town several privileges, particularly that its merchants should pass free of toll and custom, not only through England, but through Normandy, Aquitaine, and Anjou; and that no judicial process should be executed by any of the king's officers within its liberties, except by its own high steward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market should be kept within the distance of seven miles, and that the inhabitants should not be obliged to attend any assizes or sessions. In the reign of Henry the Third, it was a borough; and in the fourteenth of king Edward the Third, it sent members to parliament. To the manor, which derives its name from the town, there belong fifty-three townships, which are obliged to pay homage, and choose constables here. Of these townships eleven are in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamshire, and twenty-seven in Northamptonshire. King James the First, whose children were nursed here, made it a corporation, by the name of bailiff and burgesses of Berkhamsted St. Peter. The burgesses were twelve, who chose a recorder and town-clerk, and had a prison; but the corporation was so impoverished by the civil wars, in the reign of king Charles the First, that the government dropped, and has not since been renewed.

Berkhamsted is seated on the side of a hill, is a pretty large place, and has a handsome broad street of a considerable length. The church, which stands in the middle of the town, is a spacious edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories. The roof is supported by twelve pillars, on eleven of which are representations of eleven of the apostles, with each of them a sentence of the Creed; and on the twelfth pillar, is a figure of St. George killing the dragon. Here

is a free grammar school, which is a handsome brick structure well endowed, the king being patron, and the warden of All-Souls college in Oxford visitor. One of the chapels in the church, called St. John's chapel, is used only by the master, ushers, and scholars, of this free-school. Here is also a charity-school, and an alms-house, built by Mr. John Sayer and his wife, who endowed it with 1300 l. for the maintenance of six poor widows. They have a market on Thursdays, besides their ancient market, on Mondays; and three fairs, which are held on Shrove-Monday, and Whit-Monday, for cattle; and on the 25th of July, for cheese.

That this was a Roman town evidently appears from the coins and other remains of antiquity frequently dug up here. In the time of the heptarchy, the kings of Mercia resided here; and here Wightred, king of Kent and Mercia, held a parliament in the year 697. Here also were published the laws of king Ina. It had an ancient castle built on the north side of the town, made exceeding strong by the Saxons, which was rebuilt by Moreton, earl of Cornwall, brother to king William the Conqueror; but being razed, on account of a rebellion in the reign of William the Second, the ground, with the manor, fell to the crown. King Henry the Second kept his court at Berkhamsted, and granted great privileges to the place. The castle was afterwards rebuilt, and in the reign of king John was besieged by the dauphin of France, in conjunction with the barons, and the defendants held out till they had an order from the king to surrender. The castle being at length demolished, a large house was built out of its ruins, but what now remains of it is only the third part, the other

two-thirds being destroyed by fire in the reign of Charles the First.

In the reign of king John there were here two hospitals of poor and infirm persons, one of them dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and the other, which was both for brothers and sisters lepers, to St. John the Evangelist, the custody of both of which was granted by Geoffrey Fitz Pierce, earl of Essex, to the house of St. Thomas, of Acon in London. There were likewise in this town, in the reign of king Edward the Second, an hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr, and an old hospital called St. James's, from St. James's well, at the farther end of the High-street.

Thomas Ken, a pious prelate of the seventeenth century, was born at this town, in July 1637. He was educated at Winchester school, and at New college, and Winchester college, in Oxford. In 1675, which was the year of the jubilee, he travelled to Rome, and was wont to say, that he had reason to thank God for his travels, inasmuch as he returned from them with a more thorough conviction of the purity of the reformed religion, than he had formerly been impressed with. He afterwards became chaplain to king Charles the Second, and to the princess of Orange; and in 1685, was advanced to the bishopric of Bath and Wells. In the beginning of the same year he attended king Charles the Second, on his death-bed; and acquitted himself, on that delicate occasion, with a piety and prudence which did honour to his character. In the following reign, he opposed, with great zeal, the progress of popery; and was one of the seven bishops who were committed to the tower, on account of their subscribing a petition to his majesty against the declaration of indulgence. He refused, however, at the time of the revolution, to take the oaths to
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King William and queen Mary, and, for that reason, was deprived of his bishopric. Upon the accession of queen Anne to the throne, he was allowed a pension of 200 l. a year, which he enjoyed till his death. He expired March the 19th, 1711, and was buried in the church-yard of Froome-Selwood, in his own diocese. He wrote an *Exposition of the Church Catechism*; *Prayers for the Use of the Bath*; *Evangelical Hymns*; and some other pieces.

TRING is situated four miles north-west of Berkhamsted, and thirty-three north-west of London; and is the most western town in the county. It is a place of great antiquity, and in the time of the Saxons, gave name to a hundred, of which it was the capital. It is now a small but neat place, yet has a large handsome church, with a chapel at the east end, and a tower, in which is a ring of six bells; and in the chancel are several fine monuments; the church and chancel were not very long ago beautified and wainscoted by Sir Richard Anderson and Mr. Gore. It has a considerable market for corn, on Fridays, and the town has the privilege of two fairs, on June 29, and September 29; but the first is not observed, and the other is only for hiring servants. Near this town is a park of three hundred acres, and a very fine wood; and at a village called Little Tring, in this parish, rises one of the heads of the river Thames.

We must not leave this place without mentioning a melancholy instance of the superstition of the vulgar. In April 1751, a fellow who kept a public house in this town, imagining himself to be bewitched, by one Ruth Osborne and her husband, harmless people above seventy years of age, had it cried at several market towns, that they were to be tried by ducking on a particular

day. This occasioned a vast concourse. The parish officers, who were men of sense, removed the old couple from the workhouse, into the church, for security; but the blind fury of the mob was not to be appeased; for missing them, they demolished part of the workhouse, and seizing the governor, threatened to drown him, and fire the house. The poor wretches were at length, for the public safety, delivered up; on which the mob stripped them naked, and having tied their thumbs to their toes, wrapped them in two different sheets, then dragged them two miles, and threw them into a muddy stream. After much ducking and ill usage, the old woman was thrown naked on the bank, almost choaked with mud, and expired a few minutes after, she being kicked and beat with sticks, even after she was dead. To add to this barbarity, they put the dead witch, as they called her, in bed with her husband, and tied them together. The old man afterwards recovered, but did not appear as an evidence. For this crime, one Thomas Colley, the most active of the rabble, suffered death.

We shall now enter this county by the great northern road, which enters it at Waltham Cross, and leads northward to Hertford. **WALTHAM CROSS**, also called **WEST WALTHAM**, is a post and market town, on the west side of the river Lea, which divides this county from Essex, and separates Waltham Cross from Waltham Abbey, at the distance of twelve miles from London. It takes its distinguishing epithet from the cross built here by Edward the First, in honour of Eleanor his queen, whose corpse rested here in its way from Lincolnshire to London. That princess's effigies are placed round the pillar, with the arms of her consort, and those of her own, namely
England,

England, Castile, Leon and Poictou, which are still in part remaining, though greatly defaced.

About two miles to the westward of Waltham Cross is THEOBALDS, a pleasant village, in the parish of Chesshunt, situated by the New River. Here a magnificent seat was erected by the great lord Burleigh, in the reign of queen Elizabeth. The gallery, says Hentzner, was painted with the genealogy of the kings of England; and from thence was a descent into the garden, which was encompassed with a moat, filled with water, and large enough to have the pleasure of rowing in a boat between the shrubs; it was adorned with a great variety of trees and plants, labyrinths made with much labour, a fountain with its bason of white marble, and with columns and pyramids. The summer house was built semicircularly, and in the lower part were the twelve Roman emperors in white marble, also a table of touch-stone; the upper part of it was set round with leaden cisterns, into which water was conveyed through pipes. This seat the lord Burleigh gave to Sir Robert Cecil, his younger son, in whose time king James the First staid there, for one night's refreshment, on his coming out of Scotland, to take possession of the throne, and met with a noble reception; when he was so delighted with the place, that he afterwards gave Sir Robert the manor of Hatfield Regis in exchange for it; and not long after, created him earl of Salisbury. King James enlarged the park, and encompassed it with a wall ten miles round. This palace he frequently visited, in order to enjoy the pleasure of hunting in Enfield Chase, and Epping Forest; and at last died there. But in the civil wars it was plundered and defaced. King Charles the Second granted the manor to George Monk, duke of Albemarle; but it reverting again to the crown for want of

heirs male, king William the Third gave it to William Bentinck, whom he created earl of Portland, and from him it descended to the duke his grandson. The great park, a part of which is in Hertfordshire, and a part in Middlesex, is now converted into farms.

In this village are several houses belonging to persons of distinction, and in this neighbourhood Richard Cromwell, who had abdicated the protectorship, resided in a very private manner during the latter part of his life.

CHESHUNT, which is situated about three miles to the north-east of Theobalds, is thought by some to be the Durolitum of Antoninus, which he places fifteen miles from London, and stands near the military way called Erminstreet. In Kilsmore field, west of Cheshunt, are the remains of a camp, where an oblong fortification is yet remaining, and a rampart and ditch are very visible, for above a hundred yards. King Edward the Third gave Cheshunt the privilege of a market, which has been long discontinued. It consists chiefly of a long street, and has a church and meeting-house. A Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was founded here before the year 1183, and augmented with the lands and tenements of the canons of Cathale, in the twenty-fourth year of king Henry the Third, yet at the general dissolution it was valued at no more than 14 l. 1 s. a year.

HODSDON, or HODDESDON, is a great thoroughfare town on the north road, seated on the river Lea, three miles south of Ware, and eighteen north of London. Queen Elizabeth granted this town a grammar-school by charter, and endowed the town with certain privileges. It had formerly a chapel erected in the middle of the town for the ease of the inhabitants; but through negligence,

gence, it became in time so ruinous, that it has been pulled down, and nothing is remaining but the part on which the clock is placed. An almshouse was founded here, so early as the reign of king Henry the Sixth, by Richard Rich, sheriff of London, and ancestor to the late earls of Warwick. This town has a good market on Thursdays for all sorts of corn, and a fair on the 29th of July, for toys.

HERTFORD, or HARTFORD, the county-town, was called by the ancient Britons Durocobrivæ, or Red Ford, from the supposition that the gravel at the ford over the Lea was red; whence some have thought the present name derived from the Saxon Herudford, or Herotford, which has the same signification; but Dr. Gibson derives Hartford from a hart, this county formerly abounding in deer; and the arms of the town being a hart couchant in the water, seems to confirm the opinion; besides the soil, in this part of the county, is not red; for these reasons some choose to write the name Hartford. It is pleasantly seated in a sweet air and dry vale, twenty-three miles from London, and was of some note in the time of the ancient Britons. The Saxon kings often kept their court here; and upon the first division of the kingdom into counties, it was made the county town. King Alfred built a castle to defend the town and neighbourhood against the Danes, who, in their light pinnaces, came up from the Thames, by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and there erected a fort, whence they made frequent sallies to plunder and destroy the country. The manor of Hertford being vested in king Edward the Elder, he built a borough, and fortified it with a wall of turf, for the defence of his tenants. The manor continued vested in the king, but the bailiff, under-bailiff, and other officers, were annually

chosen by the burgesſes of the town; the bailiff was allowed by the king twenty ſhillings a year for a livery gown, and the porter of the caſtle was nominated by the king, who paid him two-pence a day: the burgesſes choſe a ſteward to keep courts for the borough, where rents were paid, controverſies determined, wills proved, by-laws made, offenders puniſhed, and fines aſſeſſed; and the governors of the caſtle were uſually the ſheriffs of Hertfordſhire and Eſſex. This town ſent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward the Firſt, but after the ſeventh of Henry the Fifth, the bailiff and burgesſes deſiring to be excuſed, on account of their poverty, this was diſcontinued till the twenty-ſecond of James the Firſt. In the reign of Henry the Seventh, the ſtandard of weights and meaſures was fixed here; and queen Mary rendered this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs, and ſixteen burgesſes. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of queen Elizabeth, when the plague raged in London, Michaelmas term was kept here, and a new charter was granted by that queen, by the ſtile of a bailiff, eleven capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants. King James the Firſt granted the town another charter, with the ſtile of the mayor, burgesſes, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants, the mayor to be choſen out of the burgesſes, by both the burgesſes and aſſiſtants; but the town is now governed by a mayor, a high ſteward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town-clerk, a chamberlain, ten capital burgesſes, ſixteen aſſiſtants, and two ſerjeants at mace.

Hertford is built in the form of a Roman Y, and has a caſtle placed between the two horns, in which is the ſeſſions houſe for the county. It has likewiſe a county goal. It had formerly five churches,

churches, which are now reduced to two, and has several meeting-houses of dissenters. The churches are named All Saints, and St. Andrews; the former is situated on the south side of the town, and has a lofty spire covered with lead, and eight bells, besides an organ, and a handsome gallery, for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governors of Christ-church hospital in London, who have erected a handsome structure for such children as either want health, or are too young for that hospital. St. Andrews is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the streets. Here is a free grammar-school, founded in the reign of king James the First, by Richard Hale, Esq; who endowed it with 40 l. a year, and placed it under the government of the corporation; but the master is appointed by Mr. Hale's heirs or representatives. The house is a handsome structure, and not many years ago was rebuilt. Here are likewise three charity-schools, one erected by the inhabitants for forty boys, who are taught and cloathed by subscription; another for twenty-five children, and a third for twenty children, both taught at the expence of private persons. This town gives the title of earl to the family of Conway; and there are several fine seats in its neighbourhood. The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is said, that no less than five thousand quarters of malt are usually sent weekly to London, from this town, by the river Lea. The market is on Saturdays, and there are four fairs, which are held on the Saturday fortnight before Easter, the 12th of May, the 5th of July, and the 8th of November, for horses and other cattle. It ought not to be omitted, that the town has been much hurt by turning the great northern road, which formerly led through it, through the town of Ware.

In this town was a priory of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the abbey of St. Alban's, built by bishop de Limesie, in the latter end of the reign of William the Conqueror, or the beginning of that of William Rufus, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was endowed at the dissolution with 72 l. 14 s. a year.

About three miles to the eastward of Hertford is WARE, which is thought to have derived its name from a kind of dam called a Wayre, or Wear, anciently made to stop the current of streams, a conjecture rendered the more probable by the abundance of water here, which frequently obliged the inhabitants to make weirs and sluices to preserve the town, and the adjoining lands, from inundations. It is seated in a valley on the east side of the Lea, twenty-two miles north of London, and is one of the most considerable thoroughfares in the county, and also one of the best post towns on the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914 by order of Edward the First, and began to increase in buildings, and to be of some note in the reign of king John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was turned through this town by Sayer de Quincy lord of the manor. The town consists of one street, about a mile long, with several back streets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a cross, and has a handsome gallery, erected by the governors of Christ-church hospital in London; but the school, which was formerly for the younger children of that hospital, is removed to Hertford, which is thought to enjoy a purer air. There is here a charity-school, and seven alms-houses, well endowed. This town has been famous for its great bed, which is much visited by travellers, it being twelve feet square, and is said to hold twenty people. It was kept at
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the crown, but now at the bull. There are here several good inns for the accommodation of travellers. The town has a great market for corn and malt on Tuesdays; and it is said, that five thousand quarters of malt are frequently sent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return laden with coals. Here are also two fairs, held on the last Tuesday in April, and the Tuesday before St. Matthew's day, for horses and other cattle.

The plenty of water about this town gave rise to that admirable project of cutting a channel from thence, and thus forming a New River for supplying London with water; which, as we have already said, was formed by the great Sir Hugh Middleton.

Hugo de Grentemaisnil, lord of the town of Ware, before the year 1081, gave to the monks of St. Ebrulf, at Utica in Normandy, the church of St. Mary here, with all the tythes belonging to it, and two pieces of land, upon which it became a cell to that abbey, and was so well endowed, that upon the seizure of the alien priories, by king Edward the Third, during his war with France, this was farmed at 200 l. a year. After the suppression of these foreign houses, this was given in the third year of Henry the Fifth to the monks of Shene: king Henry the Sixth annexed it for some time to St. Mary's abbey near Leicester, but it was afterwards restored to Shene, and as a part of its possessions, granted by king Henry the Eighth, to Trinity college in Cambridge. In the north part of the town was an house of Franciscan or grey friars.

Sir Richard Fanshaw, an able statesman and excellent poet, of the seventeenth century, was born in 1607 at Ware-park, near this town, and educated under the learned Thomas Farnaby, and after-

afterwards at the university of Cambridge. Having completed his education by making the tour of Europe, he was, in 1635, appointed resident at the court of Spain; and returning thence in 1641, he adhered steadily to the royal cause, and suffered severely for his loyalty during the troubles that ensued. In 1651, he was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester, and committed to close custody in the city of London; but having obtained permission, on account of the bad state of his health, to go to any part of the kingdom, he retired to Tankerley-Castle in Yorkshire, where he composed several poems, and made a good number of translations. Upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, he was appointed master of requests, and secretary for the Latin tongue; and in 1662 he was sent ambassador to the court of Portugal, where he negociated the marriage of his master with the Infanta Donna Catharina, daughter of king John the Fourth. About two years after, he went in the same quality to the court of Spain; and upon his arrival at Cadiz, was received with such marks of honour and distinction, as had never been paid to any former ambassador. Having fully executed his commission at Madrid, he was preparing to set out on his return for England, when being seized with a violent fever, he died June the 16th, 1666, the very day on which he proposed to begin his journey. His body was brought over to England, and interred in the parish church of Ware, among those of his ancestors. He translated into English verse the *Paster Fido* of Guarini, the fourth book of Virgil's *Æneis*, two odes of Horace, &c. He likewise writ several original pieces, some of which have been published, and others still remain in manuscript.

At STANSTED THIEL, about two miles to the
south

South of Ware, Sir William de Goldington, in 1315, founded a college or chantry for a master and four secular priests at the altar of St. Mary, in the church of St. Margaret; but in 1429, William Gray, bishop of London, finding that the revenues were alienated and divine service neglected, he obtained the king's leave to dissolve this college, and annex all its possessions to the priory of Elsing Spittle in London; from which house were afterwards sent two regular canons to reside here, and perform divine service.

In LEMMON Field near Westmill, or Wadesmill, not far from Ware, three Roman wine vessels were dug up in the year 1729. They were of a pale reddish earth, and in form resembled the Roman Amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, in order to fix them in the ground. These vessels were eighteen inches below the surface, and filled with earth and chalk-stones of the neighbouring soil. Many human bodies have been dug up near this place, but though the ground around them was black, they did not seem to have been burnt, but by their shallow burial, appeared to have been left there after a battle. At Roundwood near Westmill, is about an acre of ground entrenched; as there is also at Campwood, not far distant.

Seven miles north of Ware, and at a small distance to the east of the great north road, is STANDON, a small town, situated seven miles west of Stortford, and twenty-nine north of London. The church is seated near the town, and has three isles, but the tower stands at a little distance from the east end of the south isle. This town has a market on Fridays, but no fairs.

Gilbert de Clare having given the church of Standon, with his vineyard and a hundred and forty acres of land, in the reign of king Stephen,

to the knights hospitalers, here was a preceptory or place of residence for some of the sisters of that order, till they were all collected together in 1180 at Buckland in Somersetshire.

In this parish was also an hermitage founded by William, an anchorite, which Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, gave to his monks of Stoke, in the county of Suffolk, in the reign of king Henry the First, who are said to have a cell here, which in after-times appears to have been a secular free chapel.

At ROWNEY, a village near Standon, Conan, duke of Britain and earl of Richmond, founded a nunnery of the order of St. Benedict, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, about the tenth year of Henry the Second, but in the reign of Henry the Sixth, the revenues were so wasted, that they were not then sufficient to keep the buildings in repair, and to support the prioress and convent; they therefore resigned them into the hands of John Fray their patron, lord chief baron of the Exchequer; upon which, he, with the king's licence, appropriated the lands to the maintenance of a chantry priest, who continued till the dissolution, when the hospital or free chapel was valued at 13l. 10s. 9d. a year.

We shall now leave the north road to visit STORTFORD, or BISHOP'S STORTFORD, which is situated seven miles to the eastward of Standon, and thirty-one north-north-east of London. This was in Camden's time a small town, but it is now considerably improved, it being a thoroughfare to Cambridge and New Market, and has several convenient inns. It received its name from the ford or passage over the river Stort, which runs at the bottom of the town, and the addition of bishop is given to it, from its belonging to the bishops of London. The town is built
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in the form of a cross, the four streets facing the cardinal points. There is here a flourishing school, with a large handsome school-house, which was built not many years ago, and is an ornament to the town. A castle was built here by William the Conqueror soon after he obtained the crown of England, upon a small steep artificial hill, to defend and protect the trade of the town, and also to keep the people in subjection. It was kept up by the bishops of London till about the ninth year of the reign of king John, who, upon account of an interdict from the pope, caused the castle to be demolished, but he made the town a borough, authorizing the inhabitants to choose its own officers, and send members to parliament; but it has long lost these privileges. The bishop of London appoints a bailiff here for what is called his liberty; and to him are directed sheriffs warrants, to be executed in this and several of the neighbouring parishes. The bailiff has here a right to strays, and the toll of corn and cattle in its market and fairs. The bishop holds his courts-leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town. The church stands on a hill in the midst of the place, and has a handsome tower, a spire fifty feet high covered with lead, and a fine ring of eight bells. It had an organ so long ago as the reign of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, because in one of the windows were the names and pictures of king Athelstan, St. Edward, and king Edward. Here is a grammar-school, built about half a century ago by the contribution of the gentry, both of this county and of Essex: it stands in the High street upon arches, under which are shops and a market: it fronts the church-yard, and consists of three rooms; the front to the street is the grammar-school, and the two wings are the writing-

writing-school and library, to which every scholar gives a book on his leaving the school. Here are also two alms-houses. The town has a market on Thursdays, and three fairs, on Holy-Thurday, the Thursday after Trinity-Sunday, and on the 10th of October, for horses and other cattle.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, or SAERIDGWORTH, commonly called Sapsford, is said to take its name from the lord Say, who anciently owned this manor. It is situated three miles south of Bishop's Stortford, and in the reign of king Edward, the inhabitants obtained a charter for a weekly market, which is held on Wednesdays; and for two fairs, on the 23d of April, and the 19th of October, for horses. In the church were monks about the latter end of the reign of king Henry the First, or in that of king Stephen.

Returning back into the great north road near Standon, we shall proceed from thence to PUCKERIDGE, which is only a hamlet, seated in the road a little to the north of Standon; but has several good inns for the entertainment of travellers. Here in the reign of king Edward the Second was a free chapel, in which was a chantry.

Proceeding northward from thence, you come to BUNTINGFORD, a good thoroughfare town on the road from Ware to Royston, situated at the ford of a little river called the Rib, at the distance of thirty-two miles from London. It is situated upon the Roman road called Erminstreet, and has a market on Mondays, with two fairs, one held on the 29th of June, and the other on the 30th of November, for pedlars ware. This town stands in four parishes, to one of which called Layston, it is a chapelry. The chapel is a handsome brick structure, finished in 1626. Doctor Seth Ward, bishop of Sarum, who was brought up at the
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free-school here, gave four scholarships of twelve pounds a year to Christ's college in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four scholars, natives of Hertfordshire, educated at this school, till they are masters of arts. He also founded and endowed a sumptuous alms-house for four ancient men, and as many ancient women, who, from a state of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty.

The above Dr. Seth Ward, who was a learned divine, a good mathematician, and a worthy prelate in the seventeenth century, was born here, and had his education at the school of his native place, and at Sidney college in Cambridge, of which he became a fellow. In the beginning of the civil wars he adhered to his majesty; but he afterwards sided with the men then in power, and was appointed Savilian professor of Astronomy, and president of Trinity-college in Oxford. Both these places, however, he lost at the restoration; but he was soon after presented by king Charles the Second to the vicarage of St. Lawrence Jewry in London. In 1662 he was advanced to the bishopric of Exeter, and about five years after was translated to that of Salisbury, where he founded *The College of Matrons*, for the maintenance of ten clergymens widows. He likewise, as hath been already observed, established a charitable foundation at his native town of Buntingford. He might, if he had pleased, have been translated to the rich see of Durham; but he thought proper to decline it. Towards the latter end of his life he lost the use of his reason; and dying January 6, 1689, was interred in the cathedral of Salisbury. His works, which are partly philosophical, partly mathematical, and partly theological, were published at different times, and in different forms.

On returning into the great north road, which we left at Buntingford, we shall proceed northward to BARKWAY, which is thirty-five miles north of London; and being a considerable thoroughfare in the north road, has several good inns, and is a populous flourishing town. It has a church, in which are several handsome monuments, and a chapel of ease, called Northamsted, about a mile from it, to which the vicars are inducted with the church. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 20th of July, for pedlars ware.

At BIGGING, or GIGGING, near this town, was an old priory or hospital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for a master, chaplains, and several poor people.

From hence a road proceeds to ROYSTON, which is situated partly in Cambridgeshire, and partly in this county, and which we have already described in treating of Cambridgeshire.

We shall now enter the north road, which leads from Barnet through Hatfield to Stevenage and Baldock.

HATFIELD, or BISHOPS HATFIELD, was originally called Heathfield, from its being situated on a barren heath, and was distinguished by the name of Bishops Heathfield, from its belonging to the bishops of Ely. It stands on the north road, about the distance of twenty miles from London, and had once a royal palace, in which Edward the Sixth received his education, and from whence both that prince and queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne. The church is a rectory in the gift of the earl of Salisbury, who is now in possession of the palace. It is in the form of a cross, and has a handsome tower steeple, and several monuments. Here are two charity-schools, and a market, which is kept on Thursdays, with

two fairs, which are held on the 23d of April, and the 18th of October, for toys.

From hence the road extends north to STEVENAGE, which is also seated in the road from London to York, at the distance of thirty-two miles from London. The church is built upon a hill, from whence it is supposed to have received its name, it being at first called Stevenhaught. The spire of this structure is large, and covered with lead, and has a ring of six bells. Here is a free-school, an hospital, called All Christian Souls House, and other charitable foundations. It has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, namely, on the ninth day before Easter, on the ninth day before Whitsuntide, on the 15th of July, and the first Friday in September, for hawkers, pedlars, and a little cheese.

On the south side of Stevenage near the road are certain hills, thrown up in the same form, as those which the Romans usually raised for soldiers slain in battle; but some think, they were done by the Danes, because not far from them, there is a place called Danes-End. Norden informs us, that the incursions of the Danes were stopped here, by their receiving a remarkable overthrow.

About three miles to the south-east of Stevenage is BENNINGTON, which takes its name from the river Bean on which it stands. Here Berdulse, king of the Mercians, had a palace, where he often resided. It passed through several hands, but was at length entirely demolished. John de Bensted obtained a grant for a court-leet, a market on Wednesdays, and a fair to be held in this place; but the market is discontinued, tho' the fair is still kept on the 29th of June, for pedlars ware.

We shall now return to Stevenage, from
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whence a road extends northward to Baldock, and north-west to Hitchin.

BALDOCK is seated between two hills in a chalky soil, thirty-eight miles north of London, and is most remarkable for the number of malsters that live here. It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is a handsome church, with three chancels and a fine tower, in which is an excellent ring of six bells. Among other considerable benefactions to the poor of this place, Sir John Winne gave 1100*l.* to build six alms-houses, and purchase lands to raise an annuity of 40*s.* each for every poor person settled in them. The market, which is held on Thursdays, is very considerable both for corn and malt; and there are here five fairs, which are held on the Wednesday after the 24th of February, on the last Thursday in May, on the 6th of August, the 2d of October, and the 11th of December, which are all considerable for cheese, household goods and cattle.

Four miles to the north-east of Baldock, and out of the road, is ASHWELL, which is a handsome place, seated on the very edge of the county, on the banks of the river Rhee, which proceeds from several springs that issue out of a rock at the south end of the town. By ancient records it appears, that this place was once a small borough, and had a market, with four fairs, but at present it has neither. The church is a handsome structure, with a fine tower, and a lofty spire; and in it are some remarkable tombs. Several small donations have been given to the poor of this place. Upon a hill in Harborough-field, in this parish, are evident marks of a Roman fortification, it being a large square work, consisting of twelve acres, enclosed with a trench or rampart, and Roman coins are frequently dug up there. This is thought
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to be one of the *Castra Exploratorum* of the Romans.

Between CALDECOT and HINXWORTH, two villages near Ashwell, on the borders of Cambridgeshire, several Roman antiquities were discovered in the year 1724, particularly urns full of ashes and burnt bones; several human skeletons, not more than a foot below the surface of the earth, with a brass tribulus, glass lachrymatories, six small glasses, pateras of fine red earth, and some other things.

Five miles south-west of Baldock is HITCHIN, or HITCHING, said to be a corruption of Hitchend, which the town was originally called, from its situation at the end of a wood, named Hitchwood, which does not now reach so far as the town. It is seated in a pleasant valley, fourteen miles north of St. Alban's, and thirty-five north-north-west of London. The church, which stands in the middle of the town, is a handsome structure, a hundred and fifty-three feet long, and sixty-seven broad, with three chancels, and a tower twenty-one feet square, in which is a ring of six bells. The town is governed by a bailiff, and four constables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts; and is divided into the three wards of Tilthouse, Bridge and Bancroft; and is thought to be the second town in the county for the number of houses and inhabitants. It has a free-school, a charity-school, and eight alms-houses. Considerable quantities of malt are made in the town, and it has a great market on Tuesdays for all sorts of grain. It has likewise three fairs, held on the 2d of April, the 30th of May, and the 12th of October, for a few cattle. Near the town is found a stony sort of marle, which, tho' by itself, is fitter for lime than manure, yet when mixed
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with a softer marle, that also abounds here, greatly enriches the land.

On a piece of land, called New Bigging, near a church in Hitchin, was a small priory, endow- ed at the suppression with 13 l. 16 s. a year, but is now converted into a school-house; and at the end of the town was a house of friars Carmelites, founded by king Edward the Second, about the year 1316, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but at the general suppression it was valued at no more than 4 l. 9 s. 4 d. a year.

The manor of WIMLEY, or WIMONDLEY MAGNA near Hitchin, is held by the lord, upon condition that on the coronation-day, he performs the office of cup-bearer to his sovereign: the cup, which consists of silver gilt, is returned to the cup-bearer, as the fee of his office; and this has been appendant to this manor ever since the conquest.

At HEXTON, about four miles west of Hitchin, on the borders of Bedfordshire, is a strong oval camp situated on a hill, near which, on another hill, is a barrow or mount, and near this place a battle was fought between the Danes and Edward the Elder.

RAVENSBOROUGH Castle, at a small distance to the south of Hexton, is an oblong camp that extends about sixteen acres, with an entire fortification, and so well defended by nature, that a thousand men might keep it against all the force of a great army.

Besides the extraordinary persons already mentioned, as being born in several towns of this county, it has produced the following.

Edmund Gunter, an excellent mathematician, and professor of astronomy in Gresham college, was born in Hertfordshire in 1581, and educated at Westminster-school, and Christ-church college
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in Oxford. He entered into holy orders, and took the degree of bachelor in divinity; but his favourite study was mathematics, in which he made a prodigious progress. He was the inventor of several instruments of great use in the practical parts of that science; and made the new projection of the sector, which from him is called Gunter's scale, of both which he gave a large description. He likewise made that capital discovery in magnetism; *that the variation of the needle varies*; i. e. that it is not always the same in the same place. He died at his apartments in Gresham college, December the 10th, 1626, in the forty-fifth year of his age.

Edmund Waller, a celebrated Lyric poet, was born March the 3d, 1605, at Colehill in Hertfordshire. Being little more than an infant at the death of his father, who left him an estate of 3500l. per annum, he was carefully educated at Eton-school, and at King's college in Cambridge. Here he made such a rapid progress in his studies, that by the time he had attained to the sixteenth year of his age, he was judged fit for a seat in the great council of the nation; and accordingly was chosen member of the lower house, in the third parliament of king James the First. In little more than two years after he wrote his poem upon the danger, which prince Charles (afterwards king Charles the First) escaped in the road of St. Andree, in his return from Spain. He from thenceforward became the favourite poet of the times. Becoming a widower, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, by the death of his first wife, the daughter of a London merchant, he conceived a most ardent passion for the eldest daughter of the earl of Leicester, the lady Dorothy Sidney, whom he has immortalized under the feigned name of *Saكارissa*; but all his addresses were rejected
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by the lady, on which being reduced to despair, he quitted his native country; and upon his return to it, was chosen member of the long parliament in 1640. Here his connection with the famous patriot Hampden, to whom he was nephew, induced him to concur in the measures of the parliament; but he soon after espoused the royal cause, and even entered into a plot for delivering up the city of London to his majesty. This plot was, however, discovered; and Mr. Waller, after being in the most imminent danger of a capital punishment, was condemned in a fine of 10,000 l. and obliged to go into perpetual exile. He returned, nevertheless, in a few years, and submitting to the ruling powers, became a distinguished favourite of the protector Oliver Cromwell, and wrote three fine poems upon that usurper. Upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, he was taken into favour; and wrote a copy of verses on that occasion. The king observing to him, that *he thought them much inferior to his panegyric on Cromwell*: Sir, said Mr. Waller, *We poets never succeed so well in writing truth, as in fiction*. He continued thenceforward, to the day of his death, to entertain the public with the productions of his Muse, and the House of Commons with his eloquence; for he was a no less excellent orator than poet. He died October the 21st, 1687. His works have been frequently published; and though remarkable rather for wit and elegance, than for force and vigour, are still admired.

